

# GROUP'S FURY AT CUTS PLAN

Report by Lisa O'Brien

**A CAMPAIGN group has described planned cost-cutting measures by Walsall Council as a 'ferocious attack', while an MP labelled the proposals 'totally unacceptable'.**

The cash-strapped authority plans to reduce staff pay and require them to take unpaid leave.

Its 4,000 employees face a pay cut of two per cent and taking three days unpaid leave per year, under the new raft of measures revealed last week.

The authority says it will help safeguard around 150 jobs while contributing to the £82 million worth of savings needed over the next five years.

If implemented, the proposal will help deliver £3.7m worth of savings a year, with a further one off saving of £3.7m. Those employed directly by schools will not see any changes.

Council leader Mike Bird has defended the plans, claiming that a wage cut is better than axing jobs.

But Walsall North MP David Winnick said he was very concerned about the proposals. He said: "They are taking it on our employees. It's totally unacceptable."

"What they are now doing is an onslaught. There's no other way to describe it."

## Lowest

"I would hope there's a willingness on the part of the council leadership to sit down with trade unions in all of this."

"I'm very concerned what the council is doing."

Martin Lynch, chairman of the Walsall Against Cuts campaign group, said in many cases the workers who stood to be affected were already among the lowest paid.

He added: "As far as I am aware there's no other councils in the country that are threatening to do this."

"This is really a very, very ferocious attack on their conditions."

Together with the planned pay cut, pay progression will be frozen for two years and car allowances would be cut.

Further changes include reducing the rate staff can claim for business mileage.

Discussions have now been launched with trade unions and staff, with a view to coming to an agreement over the next four weeks.

Trade union Unite, which has 1,000 members who stand to be affected, has already voiced objections to the 'detrimental proposals' with union bosses stating they will fight to protect terms and conditions of staff.

Meanwhile, GMB, which also represents around 1,000 members of council staff who would be affected by the changes, has said it expects there to be a meaningful consultation over the upcoming weeks.

● Proposals – Page 16

## 'EVIL ACT' LEAVES UNBEARABLE PAIN ON FAMILY

THEY stayed together and protected each other right up until the end. But the grandfather, his son and grandson were killed in an 'evil act', which has left their family with 'unbearable' pain.

Saddlers fans Pat Evans, Adrian Evans and Joel Richards had travelled to Tunisia for a family lads' break.

But they were murdered within 24 hours of arriving at their beach resort with Joel's 16-year-old Owen the only survivor of the family trip.

Their heartbroken family and community have been ripped apart by the tragedy and hundreds turned out to pay their respects as the trio were laid to rest in West Bromwich on Friday.

As the hearses approached Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church, floral tributes spelling out the names Pat, Ade and Joel could be seen before family and friends including Owen, aged 16, his mother Suzanne and grandmother Maureen made their way inside.

An order of service featured a photograph of 19-year-old Joel, Adrian, a 49-year-old gas service manager and 78-year-old Pat aboard the plane to Tunisia. It was handed out to mourners.

The service opened to the sound of Smile by Frank Sinatra and included the hymn Amazing Grace and the poem Together Forever. There were also emotional tributes from family friend Amanda Churchill who spoke of the trio's friendship.

## Privilege

Adrian Scarrott, director of neighbourhood services at Sandwell Council, paid tribute to his colleague Adrian.

"It was a great privilege to work with Adrian. I was really lucky to have Adrian on my team. I like to think all colleagues of Adrian were also his friends. If I was to use sporting terms, which seems appropriate, Adrian would be one of my first picks. If it was a football team he would be my main centre half. Nothing could get past Adrian," said Mr Scarrott.

Joel, a University of Worcester student and talented football referee, from Wednesbury, is believed to be the youngest of the British victims. Mike Penn from the Birmingham County FA said he believed Joel was destined to go to the very top of refereeing and would have officiated games in the Premier League. The University of Worcester student was among only a handful of young referees to be fast-tracked to Level 4 status.

"Everyone who knew Joel knew his infectious smile, if he smiled, you smiled. He was an extremely talented referee, there is no doubt Joel would have reached the top of the refereeing ladder," he said.

Addressing the church congregation, and around 200 people listening outside, Mon-



Family members weep at the funeral of Pat Evans, Adrian Evans and Joel Richards



The victims pictured on the plane on their way to holiday

signor Bruce Harbert spoke about the men's horrific murder in the resort of Sousse three weeks ago.

"What happened to them is part of a much larger picture, a global conflict," he said. "Jesus taught, over and over again, that religion is not a matter of obeying rules, but of loving God and our fellow human beings."

Paying tribute to all three victims, the clergyman said: "Even in their last moments they stayed together, seeking to protect each

other, a true Christian family to the end." Scores of mourners had lined the road to pay their respects as the funeral cortege arrived at the church in Hall Green Road.

West Bromwich West MP Adrian Bailey was among those who attended the church service. He said: "It is an incredibly sad day and I am here to give what support the family needs. They were a very important part of our local community."

● Grief – Page 3

## COURT

## £67,000 worth of benefits claimed

A GRANDFATHER claimed more than £67,000 in benefits despite also being in work, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Paul Homer, aged 50, of Webster Road, Walsall failed to notify the authorities that he had returned to work in 2008 and continued to receive benefits. He had stopped working through a back injury in 2000.

Homer pleaded guilty to three charges of dishonesty in failing to notify a change in his circumstances in relation to working. He was handed a 12-month sentence, suspended for two years, and will be subjected to a three-month curfew from 7pm-7am.

## HEALTH

## Bosses welcome link-up of trusts

HEALTH watchdogs have welcomed a link-up of trusts which bosses say will mean fewer patients needing to go outside the Black Country for treatment.

Health trusts in Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall have formed the new Black Country Alliance.

Healthwatch Walsall chairman Rupy Pandaal said: "This is an exciting opportunity for people in Walsall, for the local NHS Trust to collaborate and provide services that people need locally and to retain those skilled services to avoid people having to travel outside the area."

## FINES

## Powers to tackle fouling and litter

COUNCIL workers including bin men will be given powers to issue spot fines to crackdown on dog fouling across Walsall.

Staff from grass cutters to councillors will be able to give £50 fines, which could rise to £100 subject to a review.

Council chiefs are looking at the same powers for dealing with littering.

Councillors from across all parties have said a motion to empower council employees be able to administer fines.

Labour councillor Ian Robertson added: "Apart from being an unpleasant nuisance if you step in it or fall in it, dog mess can also be a health hazard."

## INSIDE:

## CYCLE OF LOVE STILL TURNING



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# A reel boost as cinema forges ahead



The cinema taking shape

WORK on a £12 million cinema development at Walsall Waterfront is forging ahead.

The distinctive shape of the leisure complex is now firmly in place as the ambitious Light cinema-led scheme heads towards completion this year.

It has been a long wait for a cinema to return to Walsall town centre and it has been hailed as a big boost to the area.

It will have the latest hi-tech technology and forms part of a complex which will have bars and restaurants in Wolverhampton Street.

Regeneration chief Councillor Adrian

Andrew said: "I am delighted with the progress that has been made. I am looking forward to the first film.

"It brings jobs, a family entertainment destination and it brings more investment to Walsall."

The development opposite the Crown Shopping Park will also see Chiquito, Pizza Express, Bella Italia and Hungry Horse open. The building work is being carried out by Kier Property.

It has been two decades since Walsall town centre had a cinema after the old Cannon, previously known as ABC, closed in 1993 to make way for

the regeneration of Park Street. It was replaced by the building now occupied by Poundland and Pure Gym near The New Walsall Art Gallery.

Walsall Council granted permission to expand the complex by boosting seating numbers from 1,039 to 1,245 last year.

A series of regeneration projects are being carried out in the heart of the borough. A new business and sports hub next to the Wisemore campus at Walsall College is being built while a Jhoots Pharmacy base is also nearing completion nearby. A £12m retail development at St Matthews Quarter is also planned.

# 21-year stretch for attacks on women

**A MAN has been jailed for 21 years for carrying out brutal attacks on two women – 10 years after appearing in a TV documentary charting his re-integration into society.**

Nathaniel Hamilton, aged 31, of Burnham Road, Great Barr, was jailed after being found guilty of attempted murder, rape and assault following a three-week trial at Birmingham Crown Court. In one attack he struck a woman across the neck with a gun after threatening to shoot her.

Hamilton also raped a woman and subjected her to a beating of such ferocity that she was left with multiple injuries and his footprint across her face.

Ten years ago he appeared in the BBC documentary *Bad Boy*, which charted his life after release from prison.

The court heard how his latest victim was left with a perforated eardrum and severe bruising to her neck and jaw after Hamilton forced his way into her flat on November 9 last year.

Judge Paul Farrer QC, said: "You threw a phone in her face with such force that it broke. Then you jumped on top of her and began strangling her with one hand."

The judge said Hamilton throttled the woman until she was unconscious.

While these crimes were being investigated, it emerged that Hamilton was already on police bail for making threats to kill and assaulting another woman in July.

He lured the woman to an imitation firearm, demanding she chose which limb he should shoot off.

The court heard she was struck across the neck with the gun and strangled until she almost lost consciousness. She managed to escape when Hamilton left the flat.

Hamilton was said to have 11 previous convictions, three of which involved offences of violence.

Hamilton was also placed on the Sex Offenders Register for life.



Nathaniel Hamilton

## Wheels of love still turning for pair



Cycle club members Margaret and Keith Rogers celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary

A COUPLE who first met at a cycling club in Walsall are celebrating their diamond wedding anniversary.

Avid cyclists Margaret and Keith Rogers first crossed paths as a pair of teens at Walsall Cyclist Touring Club before tying the knot when they were both 21 at St Paul's Church in Walsall.

Now, 60 years on, the couple who live on Weston Crescent, Aldridge are still happily married and still members of the same cycling club.

Keith said: "We were about 16 or 17 when we first met, we were good mates and we still are I hope."

"We're still cycling but nowhere near as much as we used to."

The pair have two children, Christopher and Kathryn, six grandchildren and a great-grandchild with another due in November.

The family celebrated their anniversary with a Sunday lunch at the Fairlawns Hotel & Spa in Aldridge.

Margaret said the couple's common interests had played a part in their successful relationship.

Outside of enjoying club activities in their spare time, Margaret worked for many years as a teacher in handicrafts and dress making, while Keith worked for General Foods in Banbury and did two years of national service in the Royal Air Force in the early 1950s.



On their wedding day

# Students on increase as college set to break free

THE number of students at a Walsall college is poised to increase – as it prepares to break free from council control.

Walsall Adult and Community College is due to run independently to help secure its long-term future.

Final confirmation for the action by the college, which has sites in Hawbush Road and Whitehall Centre, Caldmore, was due to be rubber-stamped by decision-making Walsall Council cabinet at a meeting yesterday (Wednesday).

A report says the college is looking to boost enrolment and is planning to increase the number of adults who are accessing community learning from 4,736 in 2014/15 to 5,192 in 2015/16.

The break from the council will be from August 1, although the authority is to continue offering a reduced amount of support for a further two years.

The college, which is known as WACC, was rated as outstanding by Ofsted and offers courses ranging from GCSEs, NVQs and apprenticeships.

A report from executive director Rory Borealis to the cabinet says: "The college has made a significant contribution to developing learning and skills in Walsall and surrounding areas."

"Arrangements with Walsall Council are being finalised for the college's transition to the first stage of independence on August 1, 2015."

The community college appointed Jev Bhalla as its permanent principal earlier this year. He was placed in an interim role in February 2014. Mr Bhalla was former vice principal of Walsall College.

## Assurances made over Chase Line

AN MP has been assured the planned electrification of the Chase Line from Rugeley to Walsall goes ahead as scheduled. It comes following the news that some electrification schemes have been put on hold.

The Cannock Chase MP has received assurances from the Secretary of State for Transport, Patrick McLoughlin that the electrification of the Chase Line would proceed as planned.

Ms Milling said: "I have been working hard behind the scenes to ensure that this scheme is not 'paused' as others have been."

"I had written to the Secretary of State about the business case for the scheme, and had spoken with him several times, so I am very grateful he has taken my arguments on board."

## Reality show soccer star in Banks's date

TICKETS are available for an evening with former footballer and I'm A Celebrity star Jimmy Bullard at the Banks's Stadium.

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# Grandson stole rings to pay off £14k debt

A MAN stole the engagement and wedding rings owned by his deceased grandfather and then sold them to a pawnbrokers after spiralling into debt, a judge was told.

Jermaine Lewis took the sentimental jewellery as well as £600 in cash from his grandmother – with whom he was living at the time – between March 3 and 8.

The 21-year-old, of Proffitt Street, Walsall, immediately pawned the jewellery claiming it was his own, said Mr Simon Rippon, prosecuting at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

He spent the cash at the bookies, but the jewellery was recovered from the pawnbrokers and returned after his arrest. Lewis was released on bail pending further inquiries, but less than three months later he burgled a house in Bloxwich Road, Walsall.

He pleaded guilty to theft, fraud and burglary and was given a 15 month jail term suspended under supervision for two years with 100 hours unpaid work.

Mr Gerry Bermingham, defending, said: "He owed £14,000 debts to a pay day loan company. Those to whom the money was owed had started to badger and hound him with daily threats and he took this extremely stupid way out of the situation."

Worries began for Lewis when he lost his job after borrowing money to buy a car and take his girlfriend on holiday, said Mr Bermingham.

The defendant has now got another job as a salesman, sold the car and has started repaying his grandmother.

# Academy stays in special measures

AN academy in Walsall will stay in special measures after it was ruled it had failed to make enough progress.

Mirus Academy in Leamore Lane was rated inadequate following an Ofsted visit in 2013.

The results of the latest monitoring inspection say more needs to be done.

The academy was initially put into special measures amid a number of concerns about pupil achievement and teaching.

A recent report showed a quarter of schools and academies in Walsall have been rated inadequate or require improvement by education watchdogs.

Out of the 120 nursery, primary and secondary schools in the borough, 32 were given the ratings following a watchdog inspection.

# Water works mean drivers face delays

DRIVERS face further delays along a congested route during water main works for the next two weekends.

Temporary lights will be in place along Caldmore Road to allow for work on behalf of South Staffs Water.



A friend of Joel wears a T-shirt in his memory



People line the route of the funeral procession



A floral tribute of a dog wearing a Saddlers scarf

# United in grief over beach terror victims

**HUNDREDS of mourners paid a final farewell 'in grief and bewilderment' to three Black Country men murdered in the Tunisia massacre.**

Family, friends and the wider community united to remember devoted Saddlers fans Joel Richards, his uncle Adrian Evans and grandfather Pat Evans.

Mourners lined the street in hushed silence as the funeral cortege made its way to Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church in West Bromwich. Joel's brother Owen, aged 16, who survived the attack in Sousse, supported his mother Suzanne and grandmother Maureen as they entered the church together.

As well as those paying their respects inside the church, some 200 people gathered outside to listen to Friday's service.

Mourners, some wearing 'Keep Calm and Smile' T-shirts, were handed an order of service featuring a photograph of the three men relaxing during their flight to Tunisia.

Adrian, a 49-year-old gas service manager, from Bileston, 78-year-old Charles, known to friends as Pat, and Joel, both from Wednesbury, were killed within 24 hours of starting their holiday.

Addressing the gathering, Monsignor Bruce Harbert said: "Happily, Owen is still with us. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Owen, wishing you a long, happy and fruitful life, supported by the prayer of your brother, your uncle and your grandfather.

## Farewell

"A lot has been said in recent days about the good they did – Pat's long contribution to the life of the community here in Stone Cross, the respect in which Adrian was held by his colleagues, and the love the children at St Mary's School felt for Joel as he worked with them in the last few weeks.

"As we bid them farewell in grief and bewilderment, we salute them also with a touch of pride," Msgr Harbert added.

Amanda Churchill, a close friend of Joel and Owen's mother Suzanne, led the tributes.

She said: "The relationship that existed between these three generations, Patrick, Adrian and Suzy's boys Joel and Owen were what a close-knit family is all about.

"They were four happy chappies who were forced to live together and whose lives were inextricably linked.

"The fact this relationship is over is far too painful to contemplate."

The victims' family have long-standing links to Holy Cross, with Charles Evans having married there and the church hosting Adrian Evans' baptism.



Hearses carrying Joel Richards, his uncle Adrian Evans and grandfather Pat Evans



Survivor Owen Richards and his mother Suzanne shed tears at the funeral

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Armed robbery suspect sought

THIS is the man police want to speak to about an armed robbery at a Bloxwich convenience store.

It follows an incident on June 2 at the Co-op store on the Turnberry Estate when a man produced what is believed to be a handgun and demanded cash from a member of staff.

The image released by police shows a man posing as a genuine customer and wearing a navy blue gilet and red tracksuit top, visiting the shop at about 9pm. Police say he asked to buy some cigarettes and made the threat while the cashier scanned the packet, but escaped empty-handed.

The suspect is described as white, around 5ft 6ins tall and aged between 35 and 40. Anyone with information is urged to call police on 101.

## MP backs stance on water cannon

THE decision to rule out the use of water cannon by any police force in England and Wales has been welcomed.

David Winnick said the August 2011 riots in Wolverhampton and Birmingham would have been even worse had the police deployed high pressure jets of water.

The Walsall North MP said: "The disgraceful disturbances in Wolverhampton, Birmingham, and elsewhere in 2011 would, in my view, simply have escalated if water cannon had been utilised by the police.

"Normal policing is likely to be more effective in restoring order and safety," he added.

## College tutors' advice on style

BEAUTY tutors went back to the classroom to get lessons on applying make-up from industry experts.

Jennifer Lenard, who has worked on numerous TV and film productions, shared her expertise at Walsall College, while make-up artist Ravita Pannu, resident fashion and campaign artist for international magazine Asiana Wedding, showed some of the latest trends.

Curriculum manager for beauty, Joanne Small, said: "We really enjoyed the workshops and refreshing our skills."

## Rock band's city gig

ROCK band Spear of Destiny is to play in the Slade Rooms in Wolverhampton. The band, which was started in 1983 by singer Kirk Brandon, will be in action on October 29. Spear of Destiny, which has released a dozen albums, had a top 20 hit in 1987 with Never Take Me Alive.

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IN a mean-spirited article for the Guardian, Jonathan Jones slagged off the official photographs of Princes Charlotte's christening, ridiculing "their faces lit up by hysterical joy, their hair wispy in the sun, their teeth shining like diamond walls of privilege, and their eyes betraying no signs of thought whatsoever." In other words, the perfect christening snaps.



It may come as news to the Guardian but most parents and grandparents want pictures showing their brood at its best, even if it does not reflect the absolute truth. This is why so many homes have framed photographs of Gavin on graduation day, proudly attired in gown and mortar board and clutching £27,000 worth of 2:2 BA in Media Studies. The truth is that Gavin spent most of his time at Uni face-down in an alcoholic haze and eventually landed a washing-up job at the abattoir. But who wants photos of all that? Family snaps are propaganda, not gospel.

A NEIGHBOUR told me she was expecting a bumper crop of gooseberries this year and seemed surprised when I grimaced. Seriously, does anyone really enjoy gooseberries? My stomach turns at the very thought of the texture, the taste and those obscene little prickles. It's like biting into a hairy eyeball with the aftertaste of earwax.

The neighbour says a pot of her gooseberry jam will change my mind. Wanna bet? And do not get me started on guacamole.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Conman took plumbing tuition role

A CONMAN managed to get a job teaching plumbing students in the Black Country after he duped bosses with false qualifications.

Andrew Woodfield went undetected for almost six months at Walsall Training Centre.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard how he succeeded in getting the lecturing job by brazenly presenting qualifications that weren't his and bore a different name.

When asked about this, Woodfield, who was described in court as a known fraudster, claimed he had changed his name as he was adopted

but had since reverted to his original name. The qualifications actually belonged to a man called Nicholas Davies, from Wrexham in north Wales. The pair had briefly come into contact in Birmingham. Mr Davies had no idea Woodfield was using his qualifications and was angered by the deception.

Students taking their NVQs under Woodfield's 'guidance' who achieved qualifications had to be reassessed, said Mr Edward Soulsby, prosecuting.

The 45-year-old, of Queensway, Stourbridge, was paid £13,000 dur-

ing his time at the centre. But alarm bells began ringing for his boss Steve Edis, who had given him the job at the centre on the Birchills House Industrial Estate, when it was noticed that his date of birth was different to that on his qualifications documents. Woodfield's scam was rumoured and he admitted that he did not have the relevant qualifications for the role.

He was handed a 12-month prison sentence, suspended for two years, after pleading guilty to fraud by false representation. He must also complete 100 hours of unpaid work.

The court heard Woodfield has

previously used false documents to obtain goods, had submitted a credit agreement in a false name to purchase gold from Argos and had managed to use four pieces of a discarded credit card he had found.

Mr Christopher O'Gorman, defending, told the court no problems were ever raised about Woodfield's conduct while he worked at the centre.

Speaking after the verdict, Mr Edis, aged 43, said: "The students' portfolios had to be reassessed but it hasn't had a detrimental effect on their qualifications."

# Petition prompts new talks on one-way plans

By Craig Hughes

**ONE a half thousand people have signed a petition against a planned one-way system on the main route into Walsall.**

Following the wave of complaints, council chiefs have now agreed to a fresh consultation over plans to improve the traffic flow on the route in to the town.

Proposals for the one-way route in Caldmore Road led to concerns over the impact on traders and of congestion in other streets.

Traders and residents complained they were not fully asked for their opinion. Now transport bosses have now agreed to re-consult.

It would cost up to £200,000 to see a one-way scheme introduced. The other options are to do nothing or retain two way traffic flow and remove on-street parking. Council chiefs have insisted doing nothing isn't an option.

Councillor Eileen Russell said there were concerns over the safety of children, car users and pedestrians. But Councillor Mohammed Arif raised fears about a one-way system causing a bottleneck in other areas such as Corporation Street. He insisted double yellow lines could resolve issues.

Deputy council leader Adrian Andrew told a meeting of the Full Council: "The option of doing nothing is not an option. We have really got to grasp the nettle with this. "Whatever you do you are going to upset somebody. What we can do is have a proper consultation."

A report from executive director for economy and environment, Simon Neilson, said: "There are frequent and significant safety and congestion issues on Caldmore Road, especially in the vicinity of the shopping area between Mount Street and Brace Street."

"The carriageway is little more than six metres in width throughout this section of road; consequently there is only sufficient space to allow a single-flow of traffic to pass a line of parked vehicles."

"The moderate opposing flows of through traffic frequently results in some vehicles using the adjacent footway to pass each other whilst stand-offs and driver disputes are common between oncoming motorists."

## Vote for Nathan to be first past post



Singing postman Nathan Farrell who represented the UK in the Open Mic competition

A POSTMAN from Walsall is urging the public to vote for him in an international singing competition.

Nathan Farrell, aged 29, is the only UK representative in the grand final Open Mic International competition. Mr Farrell has been a postman for 11 years, with his rounds covering the Bloxwich and Leamore areas. He made it through five stages to get to the final of the competition and, after performing at the O2 Arena in London, currently finds himself second

in the standings. There are eight finalists with seven nations involved – USA, Australia, Russia, Italy, Jamaica and India as well as the UK.

The winner will be determined through an online vote. The person with the most votes by midnight of July 31 will be the overall winner and will receive a comprehensive winner's package and a main prize of £50,000. To vote for Nathan visit [www.openmic-finalists.eu](http://www.openmic-finalists.eu)

# MP reckons hunt vote unlikely to come back

THE plan to water down the ban on hunting foxes with dogs is unlikely to come back, according to a Walsall MP. David Winnick, for Walsall North, said he was pleased the government was forced to climb down on plans to remove the two-dog limit on flushing out foxes.

The free vote was scrapped when it was revealed the Scottish nationalists would vote on the matter, even though it would have had no impact in Scotland where the issue is devolved.

Mr Winnick said: "I am pleased that the government has been forced to climb down over its plans to weaken the Hunting Act; it is not likely any further steps will be made in this parliament, since there is clearly no parliamentary majority for this."

"During the lengthy debates on the banning of hunting with dogs, I was one of the foremost supporters, and spoke on a number of occasions."

"When a group of young defenders of foxhunting invaded the chamber of the Commons in September 2004, I was present; once they had been removed, I denounced what had happened as outright hooliganism."

"On Thursday last week, I strongly criticised bringing back hunting with dogs and limiting the debate to just 90 minutes."

## Youngsters kicking footballs at cars

YOUNG footballers have been causing a nuisance by playing in the street in Darlston.

Police have been contacted about children kicking balls against cars and houses in Whitton Street.

Sergeant Leigh Hale, from the Bentley and Darlston North neighbourhood team, said officers were working to solve the problem. Patrols have already been stepped up.

He said: "The incidents in Whitton Street involve children playing football in the street and hitting cars and houses with their football."

"We have worked with partners and awareness sessions at the local youth club are being progressed. Officers will patrol the area in the meantime."

Anyone with information can call the police on 101.

## Power pylon plaguing residents dismantled

AN eyesore electricity pylon which has towered over homes in Willenhall for a decade has been dismantled.

Chiltern Drive residents gathered to watch the work on the 114ft steel tower, which has plagued families amid complaints of fly-tipping.

The pylon formed part of a circuit bringing power to around 13,000 properties. It was decommissioned after its cables were placed underground.

Dismantling work and landscaping will be completed within a fortnight.

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## Excellent rating for Clent Ward at hospital

A MENTAL health ward in the Black Country has been rated as excellent by authorities.

Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust got the level 1 rating from AIMS (Accreditation for Acute Inpatient Mental Health Services) for the Clent Ward, at Bushey Fields Hospital in Dudley.

The assessors found that the ward environment, facilities and staff attitude were all of the highest standard.

They also praised the team's communication, creative thinking and emphasis on continued training to improve quality of care.

AIMS is a partnership between the Royal College of Psychiatrists, the British Psychological Society, the College of Occupational Therapists and the Royal College of Nursing.

In all, Clent Ward is the sixth in the Trust to earn AIMS accreditation. It's the fourth – alongside Cedars and Linden at Bloxwich Hospital and Malvern at Bushey Fields – to have been rated as 'excellent'.

Patricia Hughes, ward manager, said: "As a Trust we are extremely proud to have AIMS accreditation. It's given us a benchmark to work towards in our everyday practice but we are always looking to improve."

Kate Gingell, the trust's joint medical director, said: "I was so pleased to read the report highlighting that there is a lot of creative thinking within the team. In my experience a team that provides a great service for patients is one where no one is afraid to offer an idea or opinion."

## Chiefs rule out limit on parking

COUNCIL chiefs have ruled against the introduction of a two-hour parking restriction at a Walsall car park, despite a petition signed by traders.

Calls were made for the 36-space council car park in St Michael Street, Caldmore, to be restricted amid concerns residents and town centre workers were clogging up free space.

Traders feared there was a lack of room for shoppers and launched a petition, collecting 1,024 names. Council chiefs say such measures would be detrimental to the wider community.

In a report to the Walsall South area panel, Paul Leighton, group manager of road traffic network, said: "There is sufficient availability of car parking spaces to meet the needs of the businesses for local shopping."

## Off-road bikers causing nuisance

POLICE patrols have been stepped up to tackle off-road biking in Walsall.

Complaints have been made about the activity in Whateley Road, Coalpool and an action plan is being drawn up.

# Every little helps, with visit from MP



David Winnick MP, with Tesco staff

CUSTOMERS have been thanked after donating generously to a supermarket's neighbourhood food collection scheme.

Tesco in Willenhall collected food over three days to give to charity Foodshare, which will distribute the donations to local food banks.

Staff at the store said they had an overwhelming response to the campaign this year and Tesco had collected more than 30 million meals.

Walsall North MP David Winnick also turned up at the store in Owen Road to donate a basket of food.

Store manager Steve Neeson said: "In the end we had around 20 per cent more goods delivered this time than last year.

"The sort of things we have had donated are long life foods such as dried pasta, pasta sauces and even teabags. This is the third year we have taken part. We normally do two collections a year. Our customers are always very generous.

"David Winnick also came to support our event. He made a personal donation himself of a basket full of food."

He said staff manned a station handing out leaflets about the types of food that food banks needed in the area before collecting any donations.

Mr Neeson said: "I think it's great that Tesco can use their size and scale for good.

"It helps people less fortunate than ourselves.

"This is the first collection we've done this year and we hope to do another one in December.

"I just wanted to thank our customers, colleagues and volunteers who made the collection such a success."

# Council tax arrears for third in borough

ONE in three households in Walsall have already fallen into arrears after a controversial rise in council tax, it has emerged.

Almost 20,000 homes were hit by an extra monthly bill after a discount scheme was cut by Walsall Council in April.

In just three months, 34 per cent of families fell into arrears with almost £350,000 owed, a meeting of the full council was told.

Residents on low income previously received a full discount but this was reduced to a maximum of 75 per cent by the then ruling Labour group – meaning a bill of around £20 a month.

Now latest figures show 6,600 of 19,465 households affected by the change were in arrears of around £343,000 by the end of June.

Bosses at the time said it was due to financial pressures on the cash-strapped council which is having to make £86 million savings in four years. The now Tory-run authority, who seized back control of the authority in May, had previously resisted placing extra costs on families.

Council leader Mike Bird revealed the figures following a question from councillor Pete Smith who fought against hitting residents further in the pocket.

### Increasing

Councillor Bird said: "My group has no intention whatsoever for increasing the burden on low income families. It would be wrong to say we are in a position to reverse that. We will look at that when we are making the budget."

Councillor Smith said: "At this rate over a full year, the arrears are likely to rocket to over £1.5 m. The policy is throwing yet more people into deeper debt and it will cost the council a fortune trying to recover the arrears. I have had many calls from people, most of whom have some level of disability and many are already struggling with extra bedroom tax bills."

A reduction in the subsidy was agreed earlier this year. Walsall Council insisted it has been forced into the move through Government funding cuts and services faced being further hit if the existing financial support continued.

In 2013/14 the cost of implementing the council tax reduction scheme was £26.7 million, with the majority funded by a Government grant of £23.9m, leaving the council to meet the £2.8m shortfall.

But bosses said the council's funding from central Government dropped to £17.8m in 2015/16, leaving a shortfall of £7.7m.

## Apprentice takes painting Crown



Douglas Nelson, winner of the West Midlands' Crown Trade Apprentice Decorator of the Year

A PAINTING and decorating apprentice gave his rivals the brush-off in a regional competition.

Walsall College apprentice Douglas Nelson claimed the West Midlands' Crown Trade Apprentice Decorator of the Year title in its 36th year.

The Crown competition encourages students to strive for excellence in their craft and reach the very highest professional standards.

It gives competitors a chance to show their tutors and employers, along with a panel of expert judges, just how well they have mastered the skills and techniques required of a professional decorator. The competition was held at

South and City College Birmingham and is also part of SkillBuild, a series of competitions which sees the very best in construction talent compete against each other to be crowned the SkillBuild winner in their chosen trade.

### Accuracy

During the final, the young painters were put through their paces as they tackled a series of tasks devised by Crown Paints, to test their dexterity and accuracy using a range of products, all within a tight timescale.

Mr Nelson, aged 21, who is doing his training at Ian Williams Ltd, said: "Only one student from each college could be entered so

I was really honoured when my tutor told me he was putting me forward.

"I put some extra practice in ahead of the final and really enjoyed showing my skills on the day.

"Winning was an amazing feeling and it's an achievement I'm very proud of."

Barry Hill, curriculum manager for construction, said: "Douglas has only just completed the first year of his level two apprenticeship but is already an exceptional apprentice and is a credit to the college, his tutors and employer."

"He's also a great ambassador for the apprenticeship programme itself."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Teenagers asked to build on skills

COLLEGE bosses are urging teenagers leaving school to consider training for a job in the construction industry.

With a million new construction workers needed by 2020 to meet Government house building targets, Walsall College chiefs are looking for people to enrol.

Key trades in short supply include bricklayers, plasterers, carpenters and painters and decorators.

Barry Hill, curriculum manager for construction, said: "A major shortage of skills is seriously blocking the industry's continued growth."

## Cameras used to spot fly-tipping

CAMERAS are being used to monitor an area of the Black County amid complaints of street drinking and fly-tipping.

It follows concerns raised in the Walsall South area.

Cameras are now being deployed in Spout Lane and elsewhere in the area.

A report from Walsall South area manager John Morris said: "There is also a Domehawk camera deployed in Carless Street alleyway, again to address anti-social behaviour concerns which include street drinking and fly-tipping."

## Fare way to get children reading

THE conversion of a double decker bus into a library has been hailed as an 'exciting and innovative' approach.

Old Church School in Darlaston is planning on having the bus in operation for the start of the September term after being approved by Walsall Council.

Councillor Doug James said "This is an exciting project to encourage young people to read. Everyone involved should be recognised and, celebrated for their creativity."

## Arrest made over deliberate flat fire

FIRE chiefs have ruled a flat blaze in Chelsyn Hay was started deliberately.

Crews were called to High Street just before 6.30am last Thursday.

The small fire caused minor damage and was out when two engines from Cannock arrived. A man in his 50s needed oxygen at the scene from fire crews. A paramedic was sent, but the man did not require hospital treatment.

Police say a man in his 50s was arrested on suspicion of arson.

## Revamp in top 10

THE revamp of Walsall's Old Square Shopping Centre, which will include Primark and Co-Op, is one of the top 10 Britain's top council-led regeneration projects, according to a report from the British Council of Shopping Centres. The £8m scheme has created 150 jobs.

### ADVERTISEMENT

# Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

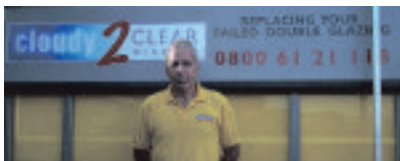
Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!

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## IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



# The not so beautiful aspect of our game

IT hasn't been a great week for the Beautiful Game. We've had Raheem Sterling jumping up and down like a spoiled child because of Liverpool's reluctance to let him join moneybags Manchester City.

Then, Villa captain Fabian Delph decided to take a slice of Sheikh Mansoor's money, days after issuing a heartfelt pledge of loyalty and undying love for Tim Sherwood's side.

In an ideal world, Roy Hodgson would say that neither of these mercenaries would ever pull on the England shirt again, but we all know that is not going to happen. We now have radio pundits who trot out the old "no loyalty in football" cliché as if it something we should commend.

Then we come to West Bromwich Albion's new boy James McLean, who decided to voice his disapproval for all things English by turning his back on the St George's flag and refusing to sing the national anthem. Very mature, wouldn't you agree?

Apparently, young James is from a staunch Republican background in Northern Ireland. Previously, he refused to wear a Remembrance poppy in protest at Republicans killed by British soldiers during the Troubles.

Clearly, Mr McLean does not have much time for England, which of course, is his right.

However, since he finds this country so objectionable, perhaps he might consider why he is living and working here.

If he really wanted to demonstrate his Republican loyalties, he ought to shun the bright lights and riches of the Premier League, and try his luck at Carrick Rangers or Dungannon United. Now that would be a genuine display of principle.

■■■

SHOW me a motorist who has never broken a speed limit by 1mph, and I will show you a liar. Which is why we should all be very concerned about the plans for a new "zero tolerance" approach to speeding offences in Scotland.

Police Scotland plans to issue warning letters to anybody who is clocked exceeding the speed limit by just a single mile per hour, with fines and penalty points for anybody who is caught doing the same a second time.

At the moment it is part of a six-month "pilot study", with the threat that "if successful" it will be introduced in other parts of the UK, or "rolled out", to use the fashionable parlance.

We'll take that as read then.

In other words, within a year or so anyone found driving at 31mph in a 30 could very easily be fined. Get caught a few times doing 31mph, and you will probably be banned.

And as everybody does 31mph at some time or other, it will simply be a matter of luck who gets nabbed.



Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip during the minute's silence



The gunman who opened fire in Tunisia



Carnage left behind in the 7/7 bombings, 10 years ago

# Snooper's charter is no solution to terror



Walsall North MP **DAVID WINNICK** looks at extremism and why he believes democracy will win

## HOW can one explain the reason for what happened to British and other holidaymakers in Tunisia?

Why should innocent people like these be ruthlessly gunned down?

By a coincidence, the Queen, on a state visit to Germany about the same time, went to the former Nazi concentration camp, Bergen-Belsen, and paid homage to the many who died there in the most horrible conditions. Belsen had been liberated by British troops just before the Second World War ended.

Like even worse killing places such as Auschwitz, Treblinka, Sobibor, which were extermination camps, the Nazis murdered their victims mainly, but not exclusively, Jewish, because they considered such people were simply unfit to live. This helps to explain the mind set of Isis who have just the same sort of attitude to those who they murder, or actively encourage others to.

## Right

Let us be quite clear: However much such murder cults claim to be acting in the name of Islam, they have in fact, as has been pointed out time and again, like other terrorist groups, absolutely no right to do so whatsoever.

Hundreds of millions of Muslims in the world, whether Sunni or Shia, practice their religion peacefully, as with other long-established faiths. And don't forget, even the Nazis occasionally invoked God for what they did.

Only recently, more Nigerians were murdered by the terror group, Boko Haram, which also attacked a mosque with gunfire because the cleric there had preached peaceful co-existence of religions, and had condemned the terrorists. None of these latest bunch of mass murderers and torturers care in the least if Muslims are included among their victims, as



Holidaymakers pay their respects at the scene of the Tunisian massacre

was the case 10 years ago this month in the London Tube and bus bombings, 7/7. Their response is to say if they were 'good' Muslims they were going to reach paradise that much earlier.

One can understand the feeling of contempt and loathing of our fellow citizens who follow the Islamic religion for those who set out to murder or seriously injure the maximum number, as on 7/7 or in Sousse, allegedly for religious reasons. There is however a danger, where there is no room for complacency regarding those who may be vulnerable to indoctrination, particularly on social media; it is aimed particularly at younger people.

The insidious propaganda urges Muslims – all the more so the young – to come over to Syria and fight for the religion. Racist comments are made about unbelievers, infidels and Westerners in general. Once in Syria with

Isis, the reality soon becomes clear to those who have travelled there as passports are immediately taken away; they are expected to start killing almost immediately, and the chances of ever being able to leave of their own accord are remote. The line is peddled that 'martyrdom for the cause' is the quickest way to reach paradise.

Here, the Government uses the continued acute danger of terrorism to argue for the draft Investigatory Powers Bill; this new bill includes elements of the previous Communications Data Bill, which was often described as the snooper's charter. The Tories were unable to introduce that measure in the last parliament, due to the Lib Dems refusing to agree to it while in coalition.

If such a bill became law, it would give the authorities the powers to store, as it wishes, all emails and mobile phones. In order to reassure

us, we're told, the content will not actually be read. I don't believe that this type of carte blanche authorisation can be justified or necessary. Certainly, targeting those who come under suspicion of wishing to inflict terrorism is obviously vital, but that is a long way from what is intended by the snooper's charter.

When Ministers or the police say the proposed bill is essential, remember exactly the same was said at the time of the 90 and then 42 day pre-charge detention proposed by my party when in office following 7/7.

No-one now argues for such excessive holding of terror suspects prior to any charge being made; it is firmly off the agenda. In the West Midlands we are not strangers to terrorism: in November 1974, 21 were murdered and over 180 injured in the two pub bombings by the IRA. It was often said that organisation grew in numbers as a result of internment brought in by the Heath government over 40 years ago.

Again, there was a fierce row not so long ago when it was found three areas of Birmingham, where a large number of Muslims live, were surrounded by a ring of spy cameras. They were soon taken down, and rightly so. It gave the impression that being Muslim was, in itself, a subject for suspicion.

Combating terror in our country is no easy matter, and no sensible person has argued otherwise. The responsibility on the police and MI5 is indeed a heavy one, and that should be accepted by all law abiding persons.

In the process it is important to safeguard long-standing liberties which make Britain the country it is. We should be proud of being an advanced democracy, based on the rule of law and parliamentary representation, where everyone can go about their lawful business unimpeded. It is also of course a country where one can practice any religion, or none; how many other states can claim the same?

In the 20th century, totalitarian movements of all shades, fascism, military dictatorships, communism, all mocked the democracies as weak and utterly decadent. Is there anyone who questions now who won that battle of ideas? And who today has any doubt whether democracy or terror groups like Isis, al-Qaeda, Boko Haram, and similar outfits consisting of outright murderous psychopaths, will triumph?

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# My ways to save Osborne's £12bn

BUDGET come and gone, good for some, not so good for others.

George Osborne wants to save £12bn. How's this for a start George:

Cut down and control immigration;  
No-one to draw benefits until they have worked and paid taxes in the country for at least five years;

All bills for NHS treatment and operations paid in full before leaving the country and going home;

Stop or cut the millions we send abroad to fund countries;

## Rights tale still has its relevance

MANY years have passed since as a 'consequence' of an act of rebellion, walking down the English Department corridor on the wrong side, Mrs Brown set the reading of To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee as my latest free time killing blockbuster.

This week there has been considerable excitement about the release of 'Go Set A Watchman' again by Harper Lee.

I have my own copy and recommend the story to you.

We all believe in human rights, our own, or those of our families, or of people like us. It's when they apply to 'others' that problems arise. The principle of equal treatment under the Law provides the solution.

To Kill a Mocking Bird and Harper Lee's story is a story of hope, progress towards a world based on individual human dignity, equal treatment and fairness.

Thank you Mrs A Brown for the detention. However, I still maintain you got the wrong pupil!

CLLR DOUG JAMES  
Walsall

Treat hospitals and doctors with respect; fix a charge for missed appointments and let someone else be treated in their place;

Pay a fee for the 'bus pass', £5.10 would bring in a lot of cash, and would still be good value for money.

Hope this has helped you George, you would be surprised how this would mount up. Dread to think other things you have in mind to raise it.

J W DAVIES

Walsall

P.S. I can see us all having a 'whip round'.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Walsall Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

### EMAIL

walsall.chron@  
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## Completely foxed by MPs' arguments

HAS more parliamentary time been spent on fox hunting than WW2? It is difficult to say how long has been spent on a particular bill, but the most important issue to a lot of Tories is bringing back fox hunting.

In the 1990s a number of private members bills were introduced for debate into the House of Commons and after the 1997 election the Labour Government introduced the first fox hunting bill that ran out of time. In December 2002 Alun Michael introduced a bill that would have allowed some licensed hunting. In 2003 a bill was passed to ban fox hunting entirely in a free vote but it was rejected by the House of Lords in October 2003. On September

15, 2004, the House of Commons spent about six hours on the hunting act that was finally passed using the provisions of Parliament act 1911 as the House of Lords blocked the bill twice.

Strange that Mr Cameron and his crew want to overturn Labour's hunting laws but shy away from overturning Labour's signing up Great Britain to the Lisbon treaty? Who knows whether more time has been spent in both Houses of Parliament debating fox hunting since the 1990s than was spent debating WW2, but surely the Government should not waste any more time trying to bring back this barbaric cruelty.

G E FANTHOM  
Swindon

## Jane doing son proud

WHAT an inspiration Stephen Sutton's mother Jane is. After all she has been through she still finds the strength to continue Stephen's legacy in fundraising for the Teenage Cancer Trust, even completing a record-breaking skydive in his memory.

Her efforts raised £150,000. Stephen was a unique and truly exceptional human being with the kind of inner strength rarely seen. It is clear to see where he got his optimism and energy from.

S STEPHENS  
Cannock

## Eloquence of blogger

TO those people who criticised the minute's silence, your blogger Mark Jones gave the perfect answer: "I didn't know Adrian, Patrick or Joel, and I don't know Owen, but they are people I might have met in passing, people I may have stood next to, people who may have known people I know."

Nothing that Mark may write in the future, will ever surpass the eloquence of those few words.

J GREGORY  
Willenhall

## In agreement

I FIND myself agreeing with every letter on your letters page, except the one by C Richardson.

I think 16-17-year-olds should get the vote and that Councillor Doug James has raised an important issue about dignity and choice for how to die.

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Palfrey

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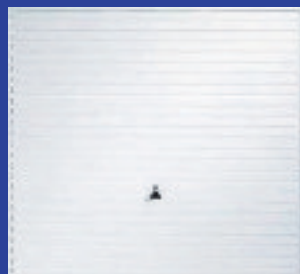
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# Samantha's on a roll for success in Europe

A KEEN rollerskater from Norton Canes is getting her skates on for an international competition.

Current British champion Samantha Meredith, aged 11, will be representing the country in the mini category at the Federation of Artistic Roller Skating's Cup of Europe, starting on Sunday.

Samantha, who will start at Erasmus Darwin Academy in September, competed at the event last year and finished in 15th place, but has prepared extensively for this year's competition.

Varya Meredith, Samantha's mother said: "She has been training two to three times a week before school at Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre and then on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at Willenhall E-ACT Academy.

## Represent

"She can't wait to go, it's her second year that she has been selected. She's proud to represent her country."

Samantha has competed in the British Championships for the past three years, making the podium on her first two attempts before winning the competition earlier this year. Competing for Momentum Artistic Roller Skating Club, she has also won various medals in events across the country.

Momentum Artistic Roller Skating Club has been running for over four years under head coach Terri Fryer, who voluntarily trains members from the age of four up to 16 at Willenhall E-ACT Academy.

Mrs Meredith is now urging sponsors to come forward and support Samantha ahead of the competition by calling 07791787809.



Rollerskater Samantha Meredith, aged 11, training at Willenhall E-ACT Academy

## Chiefs in roadworks pledge

EFFORTS will be made to minimise disruption after up to two months of roadworks got under way at the weekend, bosses have insisted.

South Staffs Water and Walsall Council are carrying out water mains and road resurfacing in Lichfield Road, Pelsall, after starting on Sunday.

It is starting with water main works and then the council will do the resurfacing which is not expected to be completed until September 6.

The Lichfield Road will be closed

between the junctions of Norton Road and Apex Road during the project.

In a statement South Staffs Water, said: "Essential improvement works have to be carried out to all services at some time, and we always try and minimise disruption.

"These are two major schemes which will benefit the area in different ways. We would like to apologise in advance for any disruption this may cause and thank residents for their patience."

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## Tributes after former councillor dies at 72



**Former Blakenall ward councillor Annette Taylor**

TRIBUTES have been paid to a former Walsall councillor and dedicated community worker who has died at the age of 72.

Annette Taylor represented the Blakenall ward between 1992-96 and was heavily involved with the Stan Ball Centre, alongside her husband Mike. She died on July 4 and tributes have been paid in her memory. A minute's silence was also held in the council chamber.

Current Blakenall Councillor Pete Smith said: "Although Annette served only one full term as a councillor, her involvement in community work and charity work in the wider Blakenall area spanned a 30 or so year period."

"Annette was a hard-working member of her local community and her efforts and determination over a long period of time have certainly made a difference to the lives of others."

"She was well thought of by those who knew her and that's a lot of people over a long period of time. She will be long remembered."

Councillor Angela Underhill added: "She worked tirelessly helping OAPs, people with disabilities. She is a great loss."

## Landlord of bar sprayed with CS gas by drinker

**THE landlord of a bar was sprayed in the face with CS gas by a thug when he stepped in to stop violence flaring, a judge heard.**

Zak Humpage was attacked when he moved to separate two customers at the Lion Bar and Club in Birchills Street, Walsall, who had been involved in an argument earlier, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

David Copestick had gone on a 'bender' on after the death of his grandmother and remembers nothing of what happened next.

David Bennett, prosecuting, said: "He had been acting aggressively since arriving at the club around two hours earlier and had been involved in an argument with another male."

### Socks

"Both had been told to calm down or leave. Mr Humpage kept an eye on them and went to stand between the pair."

Copestick pulled out a CS gas canister and sprayed it in the face of the licensee, the court heard. The defendant, who has previous convictions involving 41 separate offences, was

ejected but then sprayed more gas through the letterbox. Police were called and arrested the 33-year-old. A CS gas canister was found hidden in one of his socks.

Miss Geraldine Toal, defending, said: "He had consumed a lot of alcohol and has no recollection of the incident. He does not know how the spray came into his possession but had not gone out that night intending to cause anybody any harm."

"He had suffered a bereavement and had gone on a bender."

Copestick, of St Matthews Close, Walsall admitted illegal possession of CS spray and assaulting the club boss on November 12. He was jailed for eight months.

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## Wardens on road to boost pupils' safety

TWO new lollipop men are in place helping children get to school safely after their roles were saved following a campaign by staff and parents.

Kitted out in their fluorescent jackets and stop sticks, crossing wardens Derek Cutler and Michael Povey work outside Blue Coat Infant and Juniors in Walsall.

They have replaced the previous wardens who stepped down from the role by the schools, off the busy Springhill Road.

Lollipop men and women were saved from the axe last year after plans to cut the number of wardens, saving £85,000, were scrapped. Parents collected a petition with more than 230 names in a bid to keep wardens in place and was handed to the council through the school.

### Controversial

Up to 39 schools faced losing their warden if based near a pedestrian, pelican or zebra crossing as it was proposed the council would not pay for them – with schools left with the bill of thousands of pounds a year if wanting to keep them.

But the controversial plans were scrapped by the then-ruling Labour group amid fears a child could be seriously injured or even killed. The replacement wardens are now in place to help children and parents. St Matthews' councillor Mohammed Arif, said: "I am delighted for the school community and welcome Michael and Derek."

"It shows that engagement in the democratic process can pay dividends." Councillor Arif added the recruitment had taken months due to attracting people for the roles and urged anyone keen in becoming a warden to call Bill Gwilt on 01922 652544.



Crossing patrol wardens, left, Derek Cutler, and Michael Povey, with Blue Coat pupils, Tia Noble-Smith, Reuben McKenzie-Lamont, Zohrah Hussain, Abbi Chapman and Joel McKenzie-Lamont, plus, back, parents Julie Noble and Shamshad Hussain, and Councillor Mohammed Arif

## United stance against EDL

A UNITED front is being demanded in opposition to an English Defence League rally being planned in Walsall next month.

Members of the Full Council have agreed to unite against the organisers of the demonstration, scheduled to take place on Saturday, August 15.

In a question to members, Councillor Ian Robertson, says: "Will the leader of this council join with all members of this council in condemning this attempt by the EDL to bring

their disgusting racist violence back to Walsall and confirm how we celebrate the unity in our community and will robustly defend Walsall's multicultural co-operation and community cohesion?"

A previous EDL rally held in Walsall town centre in 2012 erupted into violence with fireworks and planks of wood being thrown.

Several youths involved in the trouble were hauled before the courts and sentenced for their part in the disruption.



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Mastermind, George Rog- Chander, of West Bromwich Wojciech Kolodziejczyk Popinder Kandola, of Walsall

## Gang found guilty over crystal meth operation

**A BREAKING Bad-style drugs gang including three men from the Black Country has been found guilty of conspiracy to supply the highly-addictive drug crystal meth.**

The case was likened to the American TV series which features a teacher dying from cancer who sets up a factory to supply the synthetic drug.

Gang leader George Rogers, aged 78, a cancer sufferer from Brislington, Bristol, masterminded the drugs plot, Bristol Crown Court heard. Two men from West Bromwich and one from Walsall were among the gang, which will be sentenced at a later date.

The court was told Rogers masterminded the plot while serving a prison sentence.

The trial heard that he and David Nash from Redcliffe, Bristol were behind the audacious plan and even sourced the required chemicals and

laboratory equipment to set up the crystal meth's production line.

When he met up with fellow gang members Harish Chander, 48, of Monmouth Drive, West Bromwich, and Garry Gooda, 46, of Shefford, he did not know police were monitoring him.

Officers used covert filming and recording equipment during the surveillance operation to catch the deals unfolding.

### Netherlands

The jury heard the gang had obtained 1kg of cocaine and the £60,000 profits from its sale were to pay for the chemicals and equipment, with some to be imported from the Netherlands.

Needing someone to cook up the chemicals to make the drug, the gang recruited 61-year-old Nash.

But before he could start work police arrested the gang on the M5 near Bristol and seized the cocaine. Rogers, Chander, Gooda and Nash were all found guilty of conspiring to supply class A drugs. Also convicted were

Popinder Kandola, 55, of Walsall and Wojciech Kolodziejczyk 27, of West Bromwich along with Carl Thomas, 45 of Tredworth, Gloucester, Stephen Williams, 58, of Brislington, Bristol.

Kandola was convicted of conspiracy to produce MDMA (ecstasy) and amphetamine and Kolodziejczyk of conspiracy to produce amphetamine.

All apart from Thomas remain in custody until sentencing, due at Bristol Crown Court at a later date.

Stephen Mooney, prosecuting, said: "Each of these defendants were involved in a number of agreements or conspiracies to supply or produce controlled drugs."

The three-month trial heard that hours of footage had been recorded. Another man, Ryan Kelly, admitted at a previous hearing, conspiracy to supply cocaine.

Rogers and Chander were convicted of conspiracy to produce MDMA (ecstasy) methamphetamine, amphetamine and conspiracy to supply cocaine.

But Gooda was found not guilty of conspiracy to produce MDMA.

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# Mother's thanks as lives are saved



Hospital fundraiser, Diane Watkiss, of Brown Road, Darlaston, with her baby son, Jenson Lee Watkiss

A MOTHER from Darlaston is raising money for the hospital ward which saved her and her baby when she was rushed in with a condition that threatened both their lives.

Diane Watkiss, aged 43, from Brown Road, was rushed to Walsall Manor Hospital when she was seven months pregnant after suffering from placenta abruption.

She was due to have her eighth child on March 15, but medics decided to perform an emergency C-section there

and then she gave birth to baby boy Jenson Lee on January 6 at the hospital's neo-natal unit.

Diane, who is married to Paul, is the mother of four boys and four girls, the eldest being 23.

She said: "I walked the children to school, but I felt unwell, when I got home after an hour I started losing blood and my neighbour took me to the hospital while their partner looked after two of my children. The next door neighbour had to phone the

schools to get the children and my husband, who works as driver, had to turn around from Market Drayton. It was a mad panic."

The situation for Diane was life-threatening for both her and Jenson Lee, who is now 26 weeks old, but thanks to the quick actions of hospital staff, they both survived.

She is now focused on raising money for the ward – including taking part in a skydive – and plans to hand over a cheque before Jensen's first birthday.

# Teen sentenced over role played in theft of birds

A TEENAGER helped a gang to steal 150 birds which were then tormented and some killed, a court heard.

The 17-year-old, who was 16 at the time, was described as having a 'transportation' role during the attack back in January.

Pigeons, budgies, finches and sparrows were taken from an aviary in Brownhills and bundled into sacks and containers before being subjected to unbearable suffering. The teenager, who cannot be named, was charged with receiving stolen goods and causing unnecessary suffering to a protected animal.

At Wolverhampton Crown Court last Friday, the teenager was given a 16-month youth rehabilitation order.

CCTV images released at the time showed the birds being chased by a dog, jammed into drawers and squeezed to death. Some were posted through letter-

boxes and dropped through people's windows. After being swiped from the home of Lee Williams in Bridge Street, Clayhanger, they were then taken to a residential block in Goscote, Walsall.

The court heard that the youth had helped steal the birds but didn't play a role in their suffering after that point.

Mr Kevin Jones, prosecuting, said: "The CCTV images show the defendant as primarily being someone who transported the birds, rather than torturing them."

The vast majority of the birds were killed during the brutal attack.

Defence solicitor Simon Hanns said the 17-year-old had since turned his life around and was no longer involved in such activity.

He said: "The other defendants were far more involved in the attack but my client accepts his role.

"He has since moved away from the area, to a place where he can't get caught up in this sort of trouble."

Cut fears as safety cash is unspent

POLICE chiefs have warned that money for community safety projects could be cut in future if it is not spent.

More than £400,000 of £5 million given to seven groups was not spent last year. Walsall Community Safety Partnership has not spent £145,664 of its £492,405 budget.

West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner David Jamieson said the money handed out would be reviewed. He said: "We need to see and evaluate where this money is going. In the case of Walsall, to have one third of the budget not spent is extraordinary. There is a lot of money that is not being spent."

Wolverhampton was the only partnership to spend all its budget last year.

Walsall has £145,664 left over including £41,000 earmarked for a child sex exploitation co-ordinator, £38,000 for fighting domestic abuse, £3,000 for business crime, £11,000 to tackle anti-social behaviour.

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## Charity collection box with £50 inside taken



The image shows a man at the bar where the tin was



The CCTV of a suspected thief with the charity tin from Q Bar

A BRAZEN thief swiped a charity collection box from the empty bar counter of a community club in the Black Country. CCTV footage shows the man taking the box containing more than £50 for Neuro Muscular Centre from the Q Bar in Walsall Wood. The container was swiped from the Walsall Road venue at around 10.30am last Thursday while a member of staff was in the kitchen.

Management at the club, which has more than 500 members, have contacted police and are appealing for anyone with information to come forward.

The venue dates back more than 30 years and raises money for a range of charities such as Midlands Air Ambulance and Lennox Children's Cancer Fund.

Police have been informed and are now investigating. Manager Fay Tapper said: "Whoever has done this is just lowlife. It is the principle of it, any kind of theft is terrible but to steal a charity box I am really disgusted."

A CCTV image shows the man walking up to the bar counter before standing still for 10 seconds. He then rips away a chain to the box before walking out with it in hand.

# Ambulance wait-time targets hit for Manor

THE NUMBER of ambulances waiting longer than 15 minutes to hand over patients to Walsall Manor has reduced, latest figures show.

This was despite a rise in the amount of ambulances being taken to the hospital in May compared to April. Of the 2,517 taken to the Manor, 1,906 were referred to the emergency department within the 15-minute target.

Also, none were left waiting for longer than an hour.

A report to Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust showed there were 2,429 in total in April of which 1,629 were transferred over to the hospital in a quarter-of-an hour, with seven waiting more than 60 minutes.

Despite the improvement there was a fine of £9,200 for the month. A £200 bill is applied for every handover which takes over 30 minutes and £1,000 for an hour.

A report to interim director of finance and performance, Russell Caldicott said: "Performance of 78.34 per cent in May is a significant improvement compared to April's 70.28 per cent."

"The Trust is ranked third regionally out of 14 Trusts for May.

By Craig Hughes

"There has been an increase in communications with the West Midlands Ambulance Service hospital ambulance liaison officer and his team."

It comes after overall delays at Walsall Manor's A&E cost the trust over £1 million within 12 months.

Waits within the department and patients having to spend too long with ambulance crews saw the trust hit with a seven figure penalty.

The failure to reach four-hour A&E national lead to the Trust getting a £653,600 bill during the 2014/15 financial year.

There was also a £402,400 penalty for the number of people waiting more than half-an-hour to be transferred to accident and emergency.

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## Enjoyable outing to Trentham

Walsall Central TG

ON June 30, 28 members and friends travelled by coach to Trentham Gardens. The weather was glorious and a very enjoyable day was had by all.

The monthly meeting was held on July 7.

Chairman Pat Jones announced that Mrs Muriel Rowley was relinquishing her post as the group's delegate at Federation. Having recently stepped down as chairman of South Staffs Federation, Pat White will now take over from Muriel and will be supported by Sylvia Fairbairn.

When the formalities were over the chairman announced the speaker for the evening was Mr David Berry, whose topic was 'Humour in Retirement'.

David did cover the more serious aspects of being a senior citizen, including the biological changes which take place, such as a decrease in memory and an increase in aches and pains, to name just two, and drew comparisons between retirement in the present day and as it was a few decades back.

Interspersed with the serious side of his topic David included an awful lot of relevant anecdotes/funny stories and the ladies were shaking with laughter.

There will not be a formal meeting of WCTG in August, but instead, one of the members, Eileen McBride, is opening her home for a coffee morning /bring and buy sale on August 4.

New members will be made most welcome. Call secretary Janice Fussell on 01922 631246.

## Anniversary marked with afternoon tea



The WI members on their visit to Dunsley Hall for afternoon tea

THIS year is the centenary year of the WI, but it is also Trysull & Seisdon's 85th anniversary.

To celebrate this, Rita Brown organised afternoon tea at Dunsley Hall, Kinver. The ladies were soon tucking into dainty sandwiches and fancy cakes all served in beautiful surroundings.

Special guests were county chairman, Sheila Moulton and her predecessor Denise Moreton. Despite a few heavy showers while the ladies were eating, the sun came out later and they were able to go outside to walk round the gardens and pose for a group photograph on the terrace.

Speaker for the July meeting was Peter Taunton, the Town Crier for Stafford and Newport. He had brought along several

Trysull & Seisdon WI

bells and the regalia that he wears, blue and gold with a top hat for Newport, and red with a three cornered hat for Stafford. His wife Maureen goes with him as his Lady, and she makes all their costumes.

Peter still performs this ceremony as well as taking part in corporate events, carnivals, weddings and funerals. He and Maureen have travelled all over the world attending functions and entering contests.

On Thursday, September 10 at the village hall, Trysull, Patricia Boyd will be advising: 'Mind your language'. The competition will be a limerick.

## Date given for annual show

Black Country Fuchsia Society

tre, Griffiths Drive, Ashmore Park, Wednesfield. Saturday, August 1 is the annual show. The opening times are from 12.30 to 5pm and are to be held at The

Hub, Griffiths Drive, Ashmore Park, Wednesfield, WV11 2LH.

The group's website is at [www.blackcountryfuchsiasociety.weebly.com](http://www.blackcountryfuchsiasociety.weebly.com)

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# Workers facing pay cuts in proposals by council

**CUTTING the wages of 4,000 workers is better than axing around 150 jobs, claims Walsall Council's leader.**

All at the authority are facing changes to their pay and conditions with a two per cent pay cut for staff and three days unpaid leave per year among the proposals.

The changes aim to save the cash-strapped authority £3.7m a year, with further one off saving of £3.7m.

Bosses claim implementing the plans would also safeguard around 150 jobs.

Councillor Mike Bird accepted the proposals may be unpopular, but called on the workforce to be realistic and go along with them.

He said: "Ninety-eight per cent of salary is better than 100 per cent of unemployment."

"Certainly my experience to date is we have a very loyal workforce, we are a caring administration and we will do our best to protect jobs."

### Administer

"I am realistic. I hope the workforce are in the real world as I am."

He added: "The people who are employed in the council services are there to administer the services that the council tax payers expect."

"If we start taking services out it automatically follows the jobs that administer those services will go."

He said the public sector had to come in line with the private sector where people have had to take cuts.

Further changes include cutting car allowances and pay progression would also be frozen for two years.

The rate staff claim for business mileage would also be reduced to the HM Revenue & Customs approved rate of 45p per mile.

Staff employed directly by schools would not see any changes.

Liberal Democrats group leader Ian Shires said the changes could see staff look to leave the authority.

"What we are doing is making mat-



Councillor Ian Shires



Councillor Pete Smith



Council leader Councillor Mike Bird



Councillor Mohammad Nazir

posals: "It would be the equivalent of turkeys voting for Christmas," he said.

Union chiefs have voiced their opposition.

Unite and GMB both have around 1,000 members who will be affected. Unite regional officer Matthew Jones said: "Unite are opposed to the detrimental proposals and will fight to protect our members' terms and conditions."

GMB organiser Dominic Hinks said there would be a meaningful consultation.

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## Petition is backed on tram stop

AROUND 100 business owners and residents have signed a petition for £1.6 million to be found for a new park-and-ride service at a tram stop. Proposals are in place for a 196-space car park next to the Bradley Lane Metro station on the border of Moxley and Bradley.

Campaigner and Darlaston South representative Councillor Doug James has joined forces with Metro Business Partnership to ask West Midlands passenger transport authority, Centro for assurances that money will be allocated for it.

He said the plan would stop car-clogging in streets near the line and help to improve public transport links to employers in the area.

"We've got companies like Wiggle recruiting 150 staff at the moment and we need to have the infrastructure to cope with these developments," he added.

Businesses wanting to sign the petition should contact 07983 456213.

# Metal recycling plant scheme is back in pipeline

**FRESH plans have been lodged to open a controversial metal recycling plant in Brownhills after Walsall Council threw out old proposals.**

Bosses now say previous traffic and noise concerns have been dealt with.

Tandom Metallurgical Ltd wants to open the recycling facility in Apex Road under a scheme promising to create 10 jobs.

The proposals, which would involve the firm relocating from Birmingham, were thrown out by planning chiefs in March following dozens of objections.

But revised plans have now been submitted. The firm has now reduced the maximum amount of metal dealt with each year by a third and further noise assessments have also been carried out. Bosses said the plans would breathe new life into a site which currently resembles a 'war-zone'.

The scheme turned down by the council

would have seen approximately 50 lorries visiting each day and more than 75,000 tons of metal passing through the site each year.

But a report, submitted with the fresh plans, said: "Clearly, following the refusal of the application and the reasons given, the applicant is more than happy to reduce the annual through-put levels for waste metal to 50,000 tons per annum, with the reduction in traffic levels that this will bring.

### Prepared

"Accordingly an addendum to the transport statement reflecting the reduction in traffic levels associated with the reduced waste input levels was prepared, and this showed a reduction of traffic levels to those that are currently allowed under the existing planning permission for the site."

The report said it was unlikely the recycling facility would deal with 50,000 tons of waste metal every year. The firm's Birmingham site handles less than half of that.

## Council in move over firm's use of land



A view of the land which is being used by against Darlaston Builders Merchants to store building materials

ENFORCEMENT action is being taken against one of the region's largest builders' merchants for illegally using land in the Black Country to store building materials.

Darlaston Builders Merchants has breached planning regulations by using land off Darlaston Road to store commercial building materials without permission, according to Walsall Council. Officers discovered building materials and pallets were at the site, between the River Tame and the rail-

way line, in April last year and told the firm to stop using it for storage. But planning chiefs have now agreed to serve an enforcement notice, giving bosses one month to clear the land.

Failure to do this can result in the firm being taken to court and fined. Darlaston South Councillor Paul Bott, who voted for the action at a recent meeting of the council's planning committee, said the site had become untidy, adding: "It is an eyesore. I agree enforcement action should be taken."

According to the report, bosses for the firm contacted the council saying a project had stalled but they now wanted to use the land and a planning application would be submitted, although none has been received.

The authority wrote to the firm again in April, giving 21 days to comply before a request for enforcement action was drawn up.

Failure to clear the site has now resulted in the council taking enforcement action.

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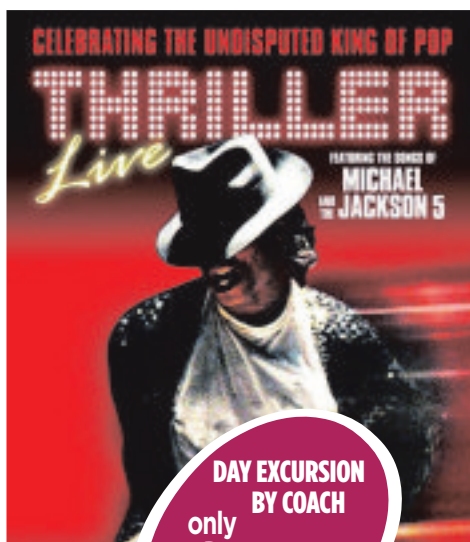
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# Summer just got a lot more mellow

## ALBUMS

by Leon Burakowski

**THREE** new releases, including two debuts, will light up the summer with mellow, subtle electronic pop music.

Each, in a slightly different way, is recommended to anyone who includes The Beach Boys' Pet Sounds among their favourite records.

The Birmingham-based duo **Malpas** unveil a blissful blend of delicate folk with brutalist percussion and waves of synth on their debut **Rain River Sea** (out on July 27 on Killing Moon Records).

Opposites not only attract, they create an album that has got BRIT nomination written all over, probably literally so next year. Conceived in a Kings Heath attic, the album weaves together acoustic guitar and mandolin (I think possibly banjo too) with electronic sounds as singer-songwriter Ali Forbes joins forces with producer Andy Savours, bringing the man who has made records with Sigus Ros and My Bloody Valentine from behind the mixing desk.

The results stay on the right side of quirky but with gorgeous results on Where The River Runs and Here Comes The Rain. If there is a minus, it's that Forbes' vocals are a little low-key, though songs like Charlemagne confirm his songwriting ability.

The other debut is from **C Duncan**, who crafted **Architect** in the bedroom/studio of his Glaswegian flat. I think Christopher Duncan may have made a classic.

Gentle, warm, lush, those are three pretty good words to describe Architect, released on July 17 on Fatcat Records. I don't like to make comparisons because it suggests lack of originality, and Architect certainly is



Malpas — Birmingham singer-songwriter Ali Forbes and producer Andy Savours

distinctive and original. However, if you like The Blue Nile, Fleet Foxes, The Divine Comedy and/or Brian Wilson at his most mellow, listen to Architect. Twelve tracks, twelve slices of bliss, including the Bacharachish He Believes In Miracles, the irrepressibly sunny Garden or harmonious title track, and the jewel-like singles Say and For. Martin was classically trained (Royal Conservatoire of Scotland) and it shines through this superbly crafted debut.

Liverpool's **Outfit** have made a fresh beginning on a new label, Memphis Industries, for their second album, **Slowness**, which is out now. From the Baba O'Riley opening to first track New Air with its stuttering synths until the six minutes of emotional electronica that closes the album with Swam Out, this is a sophisticated progression.

The songs of singer Andrew PM Hunt and keyboardist Thomas Gorton meditate on long-distance relationships, perhaps reflecting Outfit being scattered between Liverpool, London and New York. The whole album has a 3am feel with electronic chatter locating it firmly in the 21st century. Intimate

and sometimes haunting, with piano alongside the guitars and synths, it is a fine album, recommended to those who like Talk Talk, Doves and Air.

Electro-R&B/pop trio **Years & Years** have had a good year, winning the BBC Sound of 2015 poll in January (previous winners Adele and Sam Smith) and hitting the no1 spot with the pounding King in March, followed by a Glastonbury set in June. **Communism**, the portentously named debut from the London outfit fronted by Skins and Riot Club actor Ollie Alexander, is a bland, insipid offering with King by far its best moment. The under-fed melancholy vocal of Alexander sounds boy-band reject. Communism includes new single Shine but this is no shining band.

LA trio **Wand** whip up an audio sandstorm to exfoliate your mind on the gloriously noisy blend of hard rock and psychedelia that is their second album **Golem**. They don't neglect melody and there is even a waft of early Pink Floyd amid the guitar grinding. Highlights include the bulldozing Planet Golem and singer Cory Hanson getting mellow on Melted Rope.

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# In the driving seat for motorbike club reunion

THEY were first brought together in 1965 by a shared love of motorbikes.

Fifty years on, past members of a former youth club turned back the clock at a reunion.

Members of the Kavern Motorcycle Club shared a common cultural identity defined by their dress code and their music.

They met in the former Lamp Tavern pub in Stafford Street after the neighbouring Horrocks Hobbies hardware store expanded.

The expansion saw the creation of a café upstairs in the former pub while the Kavern Motorcycle Club was located in the cellar.

Members, who paid sixpence to enter, would socialise, go on bike tours, rock climbing and camping among other activities and were also active in raising money for charity.

One of their events involved them organising a bonfire at Ledbetters Farm in Essington for disabled and under-privileged children.

## Socialise

In 1973, the club started to fold when the original members had moved on to other things.

But members have since stayed in touch and around 100 people gathered at the The Farmers Boy pub in Rushall for the reunion on Saturday night to socialise and look back at old pictures.

Retired mechanic Rob Nicholls, formerly of Bloxwich joined shortly after the club launched with his 500cc Triumph.

The 65-year-old father-of-two, now of Cheslyn Hay, said: "There were hundreds of people who associated with the club.

"It was nice to see people again. We had in excess of 100 people including someone who had travelled from Canada. There were probably about 25 to 30 bikes parked outside on the night.

"We talked amongst ourselves and had a look at old pictures. It brought back lots of memories."



Like father, like son, Dave and Wayne Evans compare bikes



Elizabeth Edwards and Terry Farrington with the original club badge



Kavern MC members at the 50th anniversary reunion at the Farmers Boy



Peter Williams and his wife Renata came from Germany for the reunion



Julie Dicken came from Canada to meet up with ex-members

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Wednesbury's second XI pictured in 1912



First team players pictured in 1959



This 1911 photo is believed to be the earliest surviving image of a Wednesbury team

WEDNESBURY 1880-1881	WEDNESBURY 1881-1882
<p>WEDNESBURY 1880-1881</p> <p>WEDNESBURY 1881-1882</p>	<p>WEDNESBURY 1880-1881</p> <p>WEDNESBURY 1881-1882</p>

Wednesbury's fixture card for the 1880 season



The first XI are kitted out in their whites during their centenary year in the 1970s

# Cricket club pitches in to celebrate 140 not out

WITH English cricket fans' eyes on The Ashes, a Black Country team is attracting attention of its own as it reaches 140 not out.

Wednesbury Cricket Club played a special match on July 8 to mark the team's anniversary.

It was midway through Queen Victoria's reign that the club was formed, and legend has it that it was the monarch who inspired people in Wednesbury to walk out to the crease for the first time some 20 years earlier.

The story goes that the first organised game of cricket in the town took place in 1854 to celebrate Queen Victoria's marriage to Prince Albert.

Interest in the game intensified around this time and in 1871 players formed the Old Park Cricket Club. Four years later the team moved from Rooth Street to Wood Green Road, established itself as Wednesbury Cricket Club and has stayed there ever since.

The class of 2015 marked the occasion by playing in a one-off game against the Midland Cricket Club

## MEMORY LANE

Richard Guttridge

Conference. President John Whistance has been associated with Wednesbury Cricket Club for 55 years, since first joining as a batsman in 1960.

He went onto perform various roles to help keep the club ticking over, including as groundsman. Now aged 80, he was a proud spectator as the team took to the field for the anniversary match.

He said: "It has just become part of my life, it is something I am enthusiastic about and is very important to me." John said it was much harder to keep a grassroots side going these days and admitted he was unsure of what the future held for the club.

He said: "As a leisure cricket club a lot depends on voluntary people. Our basic source of players is through local schools so we depend on them to encourage them to take up the game and get them to feel that connection to the game. We need enthusiasm and if we can't get that we won't succeed."

For current player Andy Warner, aged 26, it is a family affair as his uncle is a former chairman and his father an ex-player.

A quantity surveyor when the pads are off, Andy said: "It is a real traditional club and it is an honour to be a part of it."

"In this day and age voluntary organisations are struggling but we still manage to get three teams out on a Saturday and two on a Sunday."

Wednesbury joined the Birmingham League in 1894 and though they have enjoyed various successes down the years, their amateur status has seen them remain at a relatively steady level. They now play in the Staffs Clubs Championship.

A win on their anniversary was to elude Wednesbury, as the MCCC proved to be too strong.

But John said achievements and results have always been secondary to the spirit at the club. He said: "There is nothing I like more than watching someone grow up and come into fruition and maturity as an accomplished cricketer and playing a key part in their development."



Bowler Mac Tonks in 1985, when he took 104 wickets



Chairman Mark Nightingale, president John Whistance and the mayor of Sandwell councillor Barbara Price

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## Zulu beats meet ballet

Inala preview – Page 23



### Blues queen

Joanne Shaw Taylor –  
Page 23



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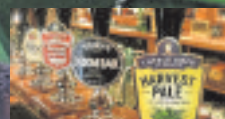
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 5pm, Sun at 10am - 5pm, Mon at  
 10am - 5pm, Tue at 10am - 5pm,  
 Wed at 10am - 5pm, Thu at 10am  
 - 5pm, Free  
 The New Art Gallery Walsall, WS2  
 8LG. Call 01922 654400

### Love Is Enough: William Morris And Andy Warhol

Fri at 10.30am - 5pm, Sat at 10am -  
 5pm, Sun at 10am - 5pm, Mon  
 at 10am - 5pm, Tue at 10am -  
 5pm, Wed at 10am - 5pm, Thu at  
 10am - 5pm, £3 - £17  
 Birmingham Museum and Art  
 Gallery, B3 3DH.  
 Call 0121 303 1966

### Antiques For Everyone

Fri at 12am, Sat at 12am, Sun at  
 12am, £12  
 The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT.  
 Call 0121 780 4141

### St Ives Artists From The Clive Beardsmore Gift Exhibition

Fri at 10am - 5pm, Sat at 10am -  
 5pm, Sun at 12pm - 4pm, Tue at  
 10am - 5pm, Wed at 10am - 5pm,  
 Thu at 10am - 5pm, Free  
 The New Art Gallery Walsall,  
 WS2 8LG. Call 01922 654400

### Animal Architecture

Fri at 10am - 5pm, Sat at 10am -  
 5pm, Mon at 10am - 5pm, Tue at  
 10am - 5pm, Wed at 10am - 5pm,  
 Thu at 10am - 5pm, Free  
 Wolverhampton Art Gallery,  
 WV1 1DU. Call 01902 552055

## FAMILY EVENTS

### Digital Music Making: Workshop (Ages 6-11)

Tue at 10am - 3pm, £10.50  
 mac, Cannon Hill Road,  
 Birmingham, B12 9QH.  
 Call 0121 446 3232

### Summer Holiday Family Fun

Fri at 12am, Sat at 12am, Sun at  
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 12am, Wed at 12am, Thu at  
 12am,  
 Cadbury World, Bournville,  
 Birmingham, B30 2LU.  
 Call 0844 880 7667

### Central Youth Theatre: Workshop (Ages 7-12)

Sun at 11am - 1pm,  
 Newhampton Arts Centre,  
 Wolverhampton, WV1 4AN.  
 Call 01902 572090

### Diddi Dance: Workshop (Ages 2-4)

Tue at 10am,  
 Newhampton Arts Centre,  
 Wolverhampton, WV1 4AN.  
 Call 01902 572090

## TALKS

### An Evening with Boycott & Aggers - The Second Innings!

Mon at 7.30pm - 10pm,  
 £23.50  
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
 B1 2EA.  
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### Poetry Bites

Tue at 12pm  
 Kitchen Garden Cafe, Kings  
 Heath, Birmingham, B14 7SA.  
 Call 0121 443 4725

## OTHER EVENTS

### Festival Of Black Country Vehicles

Sun at 12am, £0 - £45  
 The Black Country Living  
 Museum, Tipton Rd, Dudley,  
 DY1 4SQ.  
 Call 0121 557 9643

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star



# New fusion of Zulu music and dance



A scene from Inala, featuring top dancers and choral group Ladysmith Black Mambazo, which is coming to Birmingham

FOLLOWING a 2014 tour and sell-out runs at both the Edinburgh International Festival and London's Sadler's Wells, Inala brings together four-time Grammy Award-winning South African choral legends, Ladysmith Black Mambazo with dancers choreographed by the multi-award winning Mark Baldwin.

This unique artistic collaboration sees the Zulu culture-inspired production reworked for 2015 and it comes to Birmingham's New Alexandra

Theatre from Monday to Wednesday as part of a UK tour.

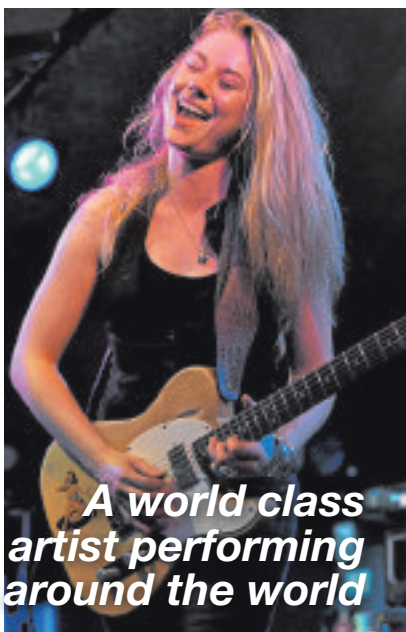
Inala means 'abundance of goodwill' in Zulu and delivers an uplifting live experience, powered by music, song and dance. It features current and former dancers from The Royal Ballet and Rambert with an original score performed by Ladysmith Black Mambazo, created by the group's founder Joseph Shabalala and British composer Ella Spira.

They created the concept for Inala

with the Royal Ballet's Pietra Mello-Pittman, who said: "Inala is influenced by Zulu dancing and South African stories and cultures, creating a new language of dance that respects the traditions of 'pure' classical dance training of all our dancers."

Male choral group Ladysmith Black Mambazo found worldwide fame when they sang on Paul Simon's Graceland album in 1986.

For tickets see atgtickets.com/birmingham or call 0844 871 3011.



A world class artist performing around the world

## Home grown guitar hero

BLACK Country blues rock singer and guitarist Joanne Shaw Taylor will play her only club show of the summer in Bilston.

The songwriter, who released her latest album, The Dirty Truth, last September, will perform live for fans at the Robin 2 in Bilston on Saturday.

Joanne grew up in the Black Country, leaving school at 16 and running straight into her big break when her demo landed in the hands of Eurythmics icon Dave Stewart after a charity gig.

Her debut album White Sugar followed in 2008 and since then she has released another four albums to critical acclaim from rock and blues pundits across the worlds. She has also moved to live in the United States, where her fiery fretwork is much in demand.

Blues fan and Robin 2 owner Mike Hamblett said: "Joanne played her first ever performance at The Robin in Brierley Hill back in 2000, as a young teenager.

"She has gone on to become a world class artist, performing around the world."

He continued: "It gives me great pleasure and is a great honour to see Joanne come back to her roots performing once again at the Robin 2, with special guests Virgil & The Accelerators, another great emerging blues rock talent destined for much bigger things."

Tickets cost £17.50 in advance or £19.50 on the night, available from therobin.co.uk or by calling the box office on 01902 401211.

### Comedy, cricket and Carpenters

ONE-NIGHTERS over the forthcoming weekend and week include veteran vocal group The Drifters at the Wulfrun Hall tomorrow night (Friday) and Glaswegian comic Kevin Bridges at the Civic Hall in Wolverhampton on Saturday.

Also on Saturday is Voice of the Heart, a two-hour tribute to the music of The Carpenters featuring singer Carole Gordon, the Blue Jeans Band and singers at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre.

Behatted singer-songwriter Badly Drawn Boy is at Birmingham's Town Hall on Saturday, and Geoffrey Boycott and Jonathan Agnew share cricket anecdotes at the Symphony Hall on Monday.

### Folk gig is delayed by bizarre accident

A CONCERT by folk veterans The Straws has been put back to the new year after singer Dave Cousins choked on a cup of tea and passed out.

The band was due to perform at the Robin 2 in Bilston on July 24. But Dave was taken to hospital on June 16 after choking on a cup of tea. This caused him to lose consciousness, hitting his head. He was discharged on June 19 but the accident dislodged a kidney stone and on June 24 he was operated on.

The band's leader for 50 years, he is recovering well but is not yet fit enough to tour. The show has been rescheduled for April 27.

### Autumn of rock in West Midlands

AUTUMN is shaping up to be a memorable season for indie rock fans with some choice gigs.

US psych band Wand play The Rainbow in Digbeth on September 12. Rising stars Wolf Alice, one of the hits of Glas-tonbury, play The Institute on September 17. In October highlights include West Midlands homecomings for Peace at Wolverhampton Civic (Oct 10) and Swim Deep at The Institute (Oct 17). Singer-songwriter James Bay is at 02 Academy in Brum (Oct 8), London's next big thing Gengah is at the Hare & Hounds in Kings Heath (Oct 12) and Liverpool's Circa Waves play The Institute (Oct 16).

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**PHOENIX NIGHTS STAR RETURNS TO ALDRIDGE**

Following her 25 date sell-out arena tour with the cast of Peter Kay's Phoenix Nights, Mrs Barbara Nice makes her third visit to Aldridge Youth Theatre with her latest comedy show 'Squirrel Proof'.

Barbara - the Stockport 'housewife extraordinaire' comedy character played by Janice Connolly, has sold out the Aldridge theatre in the past and returns to the town on Wednesday 29th July with her hit Edinburgh Fringe Festival show. Described as 'Character comedy at its best', the show is suited to all audiences.

The event has been set up by the team at Aldridge Cinema with local comedy promoters, Comedy with Cake, who specialise in cleaned up comedy shows. The community cinema, which shows new and classic movies on a Wednesday afternoon, is based at the Youth Theatre on Noddy Park Road and is looking forward to expanding their range of entertainment into live comedy.

Organisers Russell Smith and Julie Homfray have worked together on a range of events, from Brain Tumour fundraiser benefit Gig to Halfords' recent sales conference. This project marks the start of their social enterprise collaboration 'Aldridge Arts' which aims to make entertainment and events more accessible to the local community. Julie, an arts marketing and event specialist is looking forward to Barbara's return. "She's the comedy act people ask for most when we put on a show. She never fails to warm the cockles of your heart, and her show is clean and so suited to older audiences who wouldn't normally go to live comedy. We'll also be selling tea and cake at the interval in the tradition of Comedy with Cake".

Aldridge Cinema is offering a summer season throughout July, continuing on 22nd July with Summer Holiday and the following week with 'The Last of the Blonde Bombshells'. Tickets for the cinema matinee shows at 2:30pm are 5 including tea or coffee.

Tickets for Barbara's show are available at 8 from [www.alldridgecinema.co.uk](http://www.alldridgecinema.co.uk) or by calling the Box Office on 01922 456 742.

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Penguins nesting at Boulders Beach



Life's a beach – beach huts at Muizenberg



Tasty treat – food and wine pairing at Steenberg, South Africa



Sunset at Clifton Bay

# Cape Town – so much to see, so little time, but so worthwhile

**FORTY-EIGHT** hours in Cape Town – so much to do, so little time. But as a tag-on to a safari or the Garden Route, it's worthwhile.

Food, wine, culture and cabs are ridiculously cheap thanks to the strong pound against the rand.

On my visit, I plan to take in the obvious highlights for first-time visitors.

I start with a visit to the jewel in the geological crown of this diverse metropolis, the majestic Table Mountain, a sandstone wonder of the world which looms large wherever you go in the city.

The string of peaks known as the 12 Apostles are a favourite with hikers, but I chose to join the queue for the Cableway cable car on a five-minute ride to the top (adult return 225 rand/around £12.50). A

By Hannah Stephenson

revolving floor within the car ensures all budding photographers have a 360 degree birds' eye view.

You could spend a good few hours up here balancing your yin and yang. Young visitors sunbathe on the rocks, others seek out the flora, fauna and wildlife – I see lizards, but there are also guinea-pig-like creatures called rock rabbits, or dassies, and nearly 1,500 species of fynbos, including proteas, ericas and reeds.

After Table Mountain, I head for the lush vineyards of Constantia, around 20 minutes away, to test my palate with a wine-tasting session at Bistro Sixteen82 at Steenberg Farm, which produces some of the country's finest wine.

To blow the cobwebs away after lunch, I head for Boulders Beach, home to colonies

of African penguins nesting on the beach and waddling about on the rocks. You pay 60 rand (£3.30) to get in, but have good vantage points from the boardwalk.

Further up the coastline of False Bay, I stop off for souvenirs at the quirky, bohemian seaside town of Kalk Bay.

## Sophisticated

After a full day, I'm ready to try some of South Africa's finest fare. Cape Town offers a wealth of sophisticated dining based on local produce. I try springbok and ostrich while I'm here, as well as abundant seafood, from freshly caught tuna and angel fish, to oysters and scallops.

The next day, I venture to the spot I anticipate will be the highlight of my 48 hours – Robben Island. Catching the ferry from the Nelson Mandela Gateway at the fashionable V&A Waterfront, a symbol of Cape

Town's resurgence post-apartheid with its trendy restaurants, upmarket shopping malls, colonial-style buildings and working harbour, Robben Island and all it represents could be a million miles away.

It's actually a half-hour boat ride to the island, a Unesco World Heritage Site, which had been used as a prison since the 17th century and also served as a leper colony and as a lunatic asylum. We're taken on a bus around this desolate scrubland stopping at the limestone quarry where the prisoners spent their days breaking rocks in the scorching sun.

Back on the mainland, I experience the other extreme, namely fashionable Clifton, one of the wealthiest areas of Cape Town.

Here, we stay at Cape View, which calls itself a luxury guesthouse but that's a huge understatement. Checking my watch, I've done my 48 hours but I wish I had more...

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- Former Community Centre with potential for continued use as D1, day nursery, dentist or potential for redevelopment for residential

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- Former Community Centre with potential for continued D1 use as day nursery, medical or place of worship or for residential redevelopment

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For full information pack and site information contact [matthew.kitson@brutonknowles.co.uk](mailto:matthew.kitson@brutonknowles.co.uk)

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CHOICE



Len Goodman

**Dancing Through the Blitz: Blackpool's Big Band Story (BBC2, 9.10pm)**  
To commemorate the 70th anniversary of VE day, Jools Holland, Lucy Worsley and Len Goodman celebrate the big band sound and explore the social history behind the music that saw Britain through the Second World War. They trace the evolution of big band music from its beginnings in 1920s America to its glory days in the three decades that followed. Jools demonstrates how the big band sound developed through the influence of legends such as Duke Ellington, while Len and Lucy explore the dancing that accompanied big bands during the war, like the energetic Jitterbug. Featuring contributions by Petula Clark, Roy Hudd and Juliet Gardiner.

BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 The Box. (R) 12.00 BBC News: Weather. 12.10 Live Formula 1: The Hungarian Grand Prix Qualifying.** Suzi Perry introduces coverage from the Hungaroring (Start-time 1.00pm). **2.20 Live Athletics: Anniversary Games.** Coverage from the Olympic Stadium in London. **5.20 Celebrity Mastermind.** With Ken Dodd, Ore Oduba, Lizzy Yarnold and Alex Riley. **(R) 5.50 Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong quizzes eight chart-topping singers - Paul Young and Carol Decker, Sheila Ferguson and Dana, Paul Heaton and Jacqui Abbott and Keith Duffy and Mikey Graham. **(R)**  
**6.40 BBC News.**  
**6.50 Regional Programme.**  
**7.00 Prized Apart.** The four remaining adventurers in Morocco compete on the side of Barrage el Mansour's dam, as the series reaches a dramatic finale. Last in the series.  
**8.05 The National Lottery: Five Star Family Reunion.** The all-important winning numbers are revealed.  
**9.00 Casualty.** Jacob starts his first day at Holby's accident and emergency department, and he immediately has to put his powers of persuasion to use when a lie nearly costs a girl her life. Medical drama, starring Charles Venn.  
**9.50 Mrs Brown's Boys.** Agnes looks after a robotic baby that has been given to Dermot and Maria to help them prepare for their new arrival, but uses unorthodox methods to stop the fake infant from crying. Meanwhile, Cathy develops a crush on her psychology lecturer. Comedy, written by and starring Brendan O'Carroll. **(R)**  
**10.20 BBC News: Weather: National Lottery Update.**  
**10.40 Not Going Out.** The friends jet off on a summer holiday, only for Lucy and Daisy to endure the worst flight of their lives when Lee gets a bad case of the jitters on the plane. **(R)**  
**11.10 Film: The Proposal.** (2009) A Canadian publishing editor trying to avoid deportation from America bribes her assistant into a marriage of convenience. Romantic comedy, with Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds.  
**12.55 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.00 BBC News.**

BBC2

**6.00 This Is BBC Two. 6.35 Formula 1: The Hungarian Grand Prix - Practice One. (R) 8.15 Formula 1: The Hungarian Grand Prix - Practice Two. (R) 9.55 Live Formula 1: The Hungarian Grand Prix - Practice Three. 11.10 F1 Rewind: First Wins. 12.10 Gene Kelly: Talking Pictures. (R) 12.45 Film: Singin' in the Rain.** (1952) Musical comedy, starring Gene Kelly. **2.30 Escape to the Continent. 3.30 Flog It! (R) 4.00 The House That £100K Built. (R) 5.00 The House That £100K Built.** Journalist Kieran Long and architect Piers Taylor follow the progress of Sholto and his partner Marcus, whose dream to build a dream home near Inverness has proved problematic. **(R)**  
**6.00 Ocean Queens: The Story of Cunard.** As all three of Cunard's world famous liners make an historic visit to Liverpool, Simon O'Brien reflects on 175 years of pioneering transatlantic travel.  
**6.30 Gardeners' World.** Monty Don travels to Cambridge for a tour of the garden at Clare College. He also catches up with various seasonal tasks at Longmeadow and harvests the first of his tomato crop. **(R)**  
**7.00 Proms Extra 2015.** New series. Katie Derham chats to violinist Nicola Benedetti, who performs in the studio. Plus, previews of the week's concerts and David Owen Norris presents inside the Score.  
**7.40 Edwardian Farm.** Alex Langlands and Peter Ginn set sail on a fishing trip, steering a wind-powered vessel, casting a net and mastering sea shanties. Meanwhile, Ruth Goodman holds a seance. **(R)**  
**8.40 Dad's Army.** The bumbling platoon boosts its fighting strength by acquiring an armoured car. Classic comedy, starring Clive Dunn and Arthur Lowe. **(R)**  
**9.10 Dancing Through the Blitz: Blackpool's Big Band Story.** To commemorate the 70th anniversary of VE day, Jools Holland, Lucy Worsley and Len Goodman celebrate the big band sound that saw Britain through the Second World War.  
**10.40 Film: Zodiac.** (2007) Fact-based crime thriller following the hunt for a serial killer who terrorised San Francisco in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Robert Downey Jr.  
**1.10 Film: Repo Chick.** (2009) **2.35 This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

**6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! 6.25 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan. (R) 6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Animals. (R) 7.15 Sooty. (R) 7.30 Super 4. (R) 7.45 Fish Hooks. 8.00 Young Justice: Invasion. (R) 8.25 ITV News. 8.30 Weekend. 9.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 10.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 11.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.25 ITV News: Weather. 12.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 1.35 Surprise Surprise. (R) 2.35 The Chase. (R) 3.30 All Star Family Fortunes. (R) 4.15 Tipping Point. (R) 5.15 Catchphrase. (R) 6.00 Regional Programme: Weather. 6.15 ITV News: Weather. 6.30 You've Been Framed! Comedy from the mind of Harry Hill, inspired by viewers' videos. A toy bear is interrogated for information, a little girl's prayers turn into a terrifying threat. Disney princesses conduct body searches and One Direction vandalise a family home. Plus, the Great Susan Boyle Eyebrow Race and tips for keeping a marriage fresh. **(R)**  
**7.00 Film: Despicable Me.** (2010) A criminal mastermind hopes to seal his reputation as the greatest villain of them all by stealing the moon. First he needs to get his hands on a shrinking ray owned by a rival evil genius, and adopts three orphan girls to help him - but finds that fatherhood brings out his long-buried caring side. Animated comedy, with the voices of Steve Carell, Jason Segel, Russell Brand and Julie Andrews.  
**9.00 The Nation's Favourite 80s Number One.** The spotlight is turned to the 1980s - a defining decade in both pop and fashion. Featuring interviews with Spandau Ballet, Bonnie Tyler and Madness, plus a look at the stories behind chart classics such as Don't You Want Me, Tainted Love, Billie Jean and Come On Eileen. Zoe Ball narrates.  
**10.25 ITV News: Weather.**  
**10.45 Film: Twins.** (1988) Genetically designed twin brothers who were separated at birth set out on an adventure in search of their unknown mother. Comedy, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny DeVito.  
**12.40 Jackpot247.** Interactive gaming. **3.00 Ejector Seat. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen.** Text-based information service.**

CHANNEL 4

**6.05 Ironman UK Bolton. 6.35 FIM Superbike World Championship. 7.00 IPC World Swimming Championships 2015. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.30 The Simpsons. (R) 12.00 The Simpsons. (R) 12.30 The Simpsons. (R) 1.00 Rude(ish) Tube. 1.30 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Ascot and York. **4.10 Come Dine With Me. (R) 4.45 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.15 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.45 Come Dine with Me. (R)**  
**6.15 Come Dine with Me.** It is the final dinner party in Lancashire and the turn of sales manager Andy to host. He is confident in his locally sourced menu, but faces the challenge of impressing Nicky. **(R)**  
**6.40 Channel 4 News.**  
**7.00 Homes by the Sea.** Architectural designer Charlie Luxton visits the Isle of Skye in the Inner Hebrides to explore how some of the island's abandoned buildings are being brought back to life by an influx of newcomers. He explores a traditional Skye longhouse, which blends Scottish simplicity and Scandinavian chic, before viewing a white property and a contemporary farm house. Previously seen on More4.  
**8.00 Walking Through History: Norman Conquest of Pembrokeshire.** Tony Robinson embarks on a four-day walk tracing the story of the Norman invasion of Wales, which he discovers was very different from the victory at Hastings. **(R)**  
**9.00 Film: Pitch Perfect.** (2012) Premiere. A new student finds herself a social outcast during her first year of college, but soon acquires a new circle of friends in a band of misfits with a shared talent for singing. She joins their a cappella group and leads them to compete in the campus music competitions. Comedy, starring Anna Kendrick and Rebel Wilson.  
**11.15 Film: The Tourist.** (2010) A woman tries to trick the police into thinking a tourist is her criminal lover with his appearance surgically changed. Romantic thriller, with Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie.  
**1.15 The Last Leg. (R) 2.15 Hollyoaks. (R) 4.30 Secret Eaters. (R) 5.25 Kirstie's Vintage Gems. 5.30 Draw It! (R) 5.55 How I Met Your Mother. (R)****

CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) 10.35 Access. 10.40 Cowboy Builders. (R) 11.40 Cowboy Builders. (R) 12.40 Cowboy Builders. (R) 1.35 Film: Columbo: Dead Weight. (1971) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. **3.10 The Dog Rescuers** with Alan Davies. **(R) 4.05 Weather Terror: Brits in Peril. (R) 5.05 5 News.** The day's headlines. **5.10 Ben Grier: New Lives in the Wild.** A former financier who lives on a remote island in Laos. **(R)**  
**6.10 Benefits: 19 Kids and Counting the Cost.** Three women on benefits who are struggling to bring up their children, including a mother-of-seven who also cares for her husband as he has health problems. Last in the series. **(R)**  
**7.00 Nightmare Tenants: Slum Landlords.** Landlord Nicholas Parrington discovers a couple are subletting his house, just months after a previous tenant had turned the property into a brothel, while investors in a community centre for children are agast when squatters move into their building. In Lewisham, the council's Rogue Landlord Unit raids one of their main streets, on the lookout for slum conditions, illegal overcrowding and criminal activities. **(R)**  
**8.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** High-court enforcement officers Paul Bohill and Steve Pinner face some tough decisions when they are given the task of repossessing a house in which a woman is living with two young children. They also pursue a debt of more than £25,000 and visit a tenant in a fashionable London borough who has not paid his rent. **(R)**  
**9.00 Transporter: The Series.** In Berlin, ex-special forces agent Frank finds a simple chauffeur job ferrying rich young socialite Delia back to her father quickly turns into a protection task after learning German crime lord Fieder Trumpf is aiming to kidnap the young heiress. Action drama, starring Chris Vance. Previously seen on Spike.  
**10.00 Live Championship Boxing.** Nick Blackwell v Damon Jones. Mark Pougatch presents coverage of the bout for the British Middleweight title, held at Derby Arena.  
**12.00 SuperCasino. 3.10 Police Interceptors. (R) 4.50 Make It Big. (R) 5.45 Angels of Jarm. (R)****

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00 Top Gear. 8.00 Don't Tell the Bride. 9.00 Film: Shrek (2001) 10.25 Live at the Apollo 11. 10 Family Guy 1.30 People Just Do Nothing 2.00 Some Girls 3.30 People Just Do Nothing 4.00 Close**  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00 Wild Burma: Nature's Lost Kingdom. 8.00 Pappas's Classical Voices: Baritone & Basses. 9.00 Cordon 10.45 The Heart of Country: How Nashville Became Music City USA 12.15 Johnny Cash: The Man, His World, His Music 1.15 Top of the Pops: 1980 1.50 Wild Burma: Nature's Lost Kingdom 2.50 Timeshift: How to Be a Lady - An Elegant History 3.50 Close**  
**ITV2**  
**11.25 Catchphrase Celebrity Special 12.25 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 12.55 Film: The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants (2005) 3.15 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway 4.45 Film: The Lake House (2006) 6.50 Film: Back to the Future Part II (1989) 9.00 Film: Love Actually (2003) 11.45 Film: Troy (2004) 2.45 Teleshopping 5.45 ITV2 Nightscreen**  
**ITV3**  
**11.10 Rosemary & Thyme 12.50 A Touch of Frost 4.50 Film: Columbo: Forgotten Lady (1975) 6.55 Doc Martin 8.00 Rosemary & Thyme 9.00 Midsomer Murders 11.05 Agatha Christie's Marple 1.05 Wire in the Blood 2.20 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping**  
**ITV4**  
**11.00 Tour de France Highlights 12.00 Tour de France Live. Coverage of the 20th stage. 4.00 British Superbike Championship Highlights 5.00 Counting Cars 6.00 Storage Wars: Texas 7.00 Tour de France Highlights 8.00 Film: The Living Daylights (1987) 8.40 Film: The Long Kiss Goodnight (1996) 1.05 Tour de France Highlights 1.55 The Cycle Show 2.45 Movies Now 2.55 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping**  
**E4**  
**11.30 Melissa & Joey 12.30 Baby Daddy 1.30 How I Met Your Mother 2.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 3.00 The Goldbergs 4.30 Film: Journey to the Center of the Earth (2008) 6.30 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: Shallow Hal (2001) 11.15 Gogglebox 12.50 Bad Rabbits 3.10 Rude Tube 2.25 Virtually Famous 3.10 How I Met Your Mother 3.50 Rude(ish) Tube 4.15 Revenge**  
**Film4**  
**11.00 Silent Running (1972) 1.00 Step Up 2: The Streets (2008) 3.05 Dr Seuss' The Lorax (2012) 4.45 The Grinch (2000) 6.55 Scrooged (1988) 9.00 Transporter 3 (2008) 11.05 Hush (2008) 12.50 The Insider (1999) 4.00 Close**

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CHOICE



Fiona Bruce

**Fake or Fortune? (BBC1, 8pm)**  
Fiona Bruce and art expert Philip Mould help Under-Sheriff and Secondary of London Charles Henty investigate whether two paintings in his possession are as valuable as he thinks. The first is a landscape picture of Dedham in Essex, thought to have been painted by pre-eminent British artist Alfred Munnings, and the second painting is of a medieval French village, and was rumoured to have been produced by part-time painter, full-time prime minister Winston Churchill. Charles hopes the sale of these two potentially pricey heirlooms will help protect jobs at a working French farm he inherited from his late uncle, but first he must learn whether the pictures are truly genuine. Last in the series.

BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast. 9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **12.00** BBC News: Weather. **12.15** Live Formula 1: The Hungarian Grand Prix. Coverage of the race from the Hungaroring (Start-time 1.00pm). **3.15** A Question of Sport. (R) **3.45** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.30** Nigel Slater: Eating Together. (R) **5.00** Lifeline. **5.10** Songs of Praise. **5.45** Pointless Celebrities. (R)  
**6.35 BBC News.**  
**6.50 Regional Programme.**  
**7.00 Countryfile.** Matt Baker, Ellie Harrison, Adam Henson and Tom Heap visit the Kent County Show for the programme's summer special. John Hammond uses a weird and wonderful experiment to demonstrate why the area's climate is so good for growing fruit, while there are displays from the Metropolitan Mounted Police and a Spitfire fly-by to mark the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. Football Focus presenter Dan Walker is also on hand to commentate on a race with a difference as the presenters pit their wits against each other, including Weather for the Week Ahead.  
**8.00 Fake or Fortune?** Fiona Bruce and Philip Mould explore the history of two potentially valuable pictures thought to have been painted by Alfred Munnings and Winston Churchill. Last in the series.  
**9.00 Partners in Crime.** New series. Crime drama based on novels by Agatha Christie. An ordinary married couple are thrust into a world of international espionage. Starring David Walliams and Jessica Raine, with Clarke Peters, Alice Krige and James Fleet.  
**10.00 BBC News.**  
**10.20 Regional Programme.**  
**10.30 Prized Apart.** The four remaining adventurers in Morocco compete on the side of Barrage el Mansour's dam, as the series reaches a dramatic finale. Last in the series. (R)  
**11.35 Don't Tell the Bride.** Darren plans a movie premiere-inspired wedding for his bride-to-be Jacque and has a budget of £14,000 to spend, but she is hoping for a small, elegant and traditional event. (R)  
**12.35** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.40** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.00** This Is BBC Two. **6.40** Big Dreams Small Spaces. (R) **7.40** Countryfile. (R) **8.25** The Beechgrove Garden. **8.55** Gardeners' World. (R) **9.25** BMX World Championships. **10.25** Saturday Kitchen Best Blues. **11.55** The Box. (R) **12.25** Alex Polizzi: Chels on Trial. (R) **1.25** Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers: Talking Pictures. (R) **2.15 Film:** Shall We Dance? (1937) **4.00** Flog It! (R) **4.30** Two Tribes. **5.00** Hair. (R) **5.30** Hair. (R)  
**6.00 Ghost Bear Family: Natural World.** Canadian film-maker Jeff Turner and his own family spend a year with a family of North American black bears that are born pure white due to a quirk of genetics. (R)  
**7.00 Locomotion: Dan Snow's History of Railways.** The development of the UK's rail network, from its beginnings as a primitive system of trackways for coal carts in the early 18th century up to the present day. (R)  
**8.00 Dragons' Den.** A pair of entrepreneurs try to persuade the Dragons to invest in their potential solution to tidying TV cables, while Peter, Touker and Nick test out muscle enhancing clothing.  
**9.00 Odyssey.** Odelle is reunited with her young friend Aslam, while Harrison makes inquiries about a story his father left unfinished. Thriller, starring Anna Friel and Jake Robinson.  
**9.45 The Javone Prince Show.** The PhoneShop and Horrible Histories actor is attacked by ninjas, reveals Will.I.am's new role as a HR consultant, hears all about his announcer's grudge against actor Idris Elba.  
**10.15 Family Guy.** Brian becomes an estate agent after having cosmetic surgery.  
**10.35 Family Guy.** Peter and Quagmire form a singer-songwriter partnership.  
**10.55 Family Guy.** Peter goes on a quest to save Quahog's annual Christmas carnival from cancellation, which involves transforming his father-in-law from a scrooge to a home-town hero.  
**11.20 Film: Adventureland.** (2009) Comedy, with Jesse Eisenberg, Kristen Stewart and Ryan Reynolds.  
**1.00 Film:** Kicks. (2009) **2.20** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **3.05** Holby City. (R) **4.05** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00** CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Super 4. (R) **7.45** Fish Hooks. **8.00** Young Justice: Invasion. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekends. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.30** ITV News: Weather. **12.35** Love Your Garden. (R) **1.35** Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. (R) **2.35** Midsomer Murders. (R) **4.35** Film: King Ralph (1991) The British royal family is wiped out in a freak accident, making a slobbish Las Vegas singer the claimant to the throne. Comedy, with John Goodman, Peter O Toole and John Hurt.  
**6.25 Regional Programme:** Weather.  
**6.40** ITV News: Weather.  
**7.00 Meet the Penguins.** Documentary following The story of Adrian Walls, head of birds at London Zoo, as he fulfils a lifelong ambition to see endangered Humboldt penguins in the wilds of Peru.  
**8.00 Surprise Surprise.** Holly Willoughby celebrates one last selection of public heroes, including a woman with cancer who helps terminally ill people enjoy the wedding of their dreams. Last in the series.  
**9.00 Joanna Lumley's Trans-Siberian Adventure.** Joanna concludes her journey, visiting the city where the Russian royal family was killed, before returning to the place where she was photographed in 1966. Last in the series.  
**10.00** ITV News: Weather.  
**10.20 Bear Grylls: Mission Survive.** Kelly Holmes, Mike Tindall and Vogue Williams battle to be crowned winner, as they abseil down a waterfall and follow the sound of a distress signal. Last in the series. (R)  
**11.20 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Beverly Callard.** The Coronation Street star looks back on her acting career and turbulent personal life. She reveals how a nervous breakdown led her to the brink of suicide. She also reflects on her four marriages, and opens up about her grandfather, who was jailed for killing a man. (R)  
**12.10** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.40** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

**6.20** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.45** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.05** Volkswagen Racing Cup. **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) **1.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.00** Anniversary Games Athletics. Coverage of the meeting at The Stadium at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London. **4.40** Channel 4 News. **5.10** Film: Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen. (2009) Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Shia LaBeouf.  
**8.00 Experimental.** New series. Presenter Tim Shaw and daredevil friend Buddy Munro travel the globe to recreate some of the most famous – and dangerous – viral videos to have ever appeared on the internet, hoping to uncover the scientific truth behind them in the process. In the first episode, Tim tries to remake a video of Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic playing tennis on the wings of a flying plane, taking Buddy to Germany to see if they can achieve the same on an Antonov AN-2 aircraft. Strapped to the wings, Buddy challenges a professional air-acrobat to a rally hundreds of metres above the German countryside. The pair also drop 7,000 mint sweets into 1,000 litres of cola, and Buddy tries an unusual fireman's lift in Whitehaven, Cumbria – being elevated on a platform by just the force of fire engine water hoses.  
**9.00 Humans.** Pete tries to find out who Karen really is, but is unprepared for what he finds out. Laura provides the fugitive synths with a safe hiding place as Hobb closes in on them.  
**10.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown.** Jimmy Carr hosts the words-and-numbers panel game, in which Sean Lock and Mel Giedroyc compete against Lee Mack and David O'Doherty. With Adam Buxton in Dictionary Corner. (R)  
**11.00 Film: The Change-Up.** (2011) Two friends envy each other's lives, but when they magically switch bodies, they both learn that the other does not have it so easy. Comedy, with Jason Bateman.  
**1.10** Channel 4 Comedy Gala 2015: Best Bits. **2.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** You Deserve This House. (R) **5.15** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. **5.30** Draw It! (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.35** Pip Ahoy! (R) **6.45** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.55** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.10** Roodbarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.25** Paw Patrol. **7.40** Little Princess. (R) **7.55** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **8.05** Zack and Quack. (R) **8.15** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.30** Jelly Jamm. (R) **8.45** Lazy Town. (R) **9.15** Dora and Friends. (R) **9.45** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.20** Access. **10.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.20** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.00** Film: Richie Rich. (1994) Family comedy, starring Macaulay Culkin. **3.10** Film: Big Momma's House 2. (2006) Comedy sequel, starring Martin Lawrence. **5.10** 5 News Weekend. **5.15** Britain's Best Loved Double Acts. (R)  
**8.00 Police Interceptors Unleashed with Winnie Jones.** The actor introduces more clips of police in action. In Lincolnshire, officers are hot on the heels of a burglar, a roadside stop results in a huge bag of cannabis being discovered, and Jon Peacock encounters the country's fussiest felon. Plus, police in Essex deal with a potential hostage situation. Previously seen on Spike.  
**9.00 Film: Resident Evil: Retribution.** (2012) Premiere. Zombie fighter Alice finds herself trapped in a top-secret underground base as a virus sweeps the world, turning the human race into the undead. She battles through the complex in search of those responsible for the outbreak and faces an old friend, now under the control of her enemies. Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Milla Jovovich, Sienna Guillory and Michelle Rodriguez. Includes 5 News Update at 10pm.  
**10.50 Film: The Last of the Mohicans.** (1992) A frontiersman falls for a British officer's daughter who is being hunted by a vengeful war chief during the Anglo-French War. Adventure, with Daniel Day-Lewis and Madeleine Stowe.  
**1.00** SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** Under the Dome. Christine plays mind games with the townsfolk of Chester's Mill. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. A Victorian house in Norwich. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Formula 1: Hungarian Grand Prix – Highlights **8.00** Don't Tell the Bride **9.00** Film: Meet the Fockers (2004) **10.50** Live at the Apollo **11.20** Family Guy **12.05** American Dad! **12.25** Family Guy **12.05** People Just Do Nothing **1.20** Don't Take My Baby **2.20** The Ugly Face of Disability Hate Crime **3.15** Live at the Apollo **3.50** Great TV Mistakes  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00** BBC Proms Sunday Symphony **8.15** Neil Sedaka Says: All You Need is the Music **9.00** A Blackpool Big Band Boogie. Jools Holland and His Rhythm & Blues Orchestra **10.00** Len Goodman's Big Band Bonanza **11.00** The Golden Age of Steam Railways **12.00** Brakeless: Why Trains Crash – Storyville **1.00** Great American Rock Anthems: Turn It Up to 11 **2.00** What Ever Happened to Rock 'n' Roll? **3.00** The Golden Age of Steam Railways  
**ITV2**  
**12.15** Take Me Out **1.40** Take Me Out – The Gossip **2.45** Catchphrase Celebrity Special **3.45** Film: Beethoven (1992) **5.00** Film: Scooby-Doo (2002) **7.15** Film: Johnny English (2003) **9.00** Film: 300 (2006) **11.20** Salford 12. **00** Film: Romy and Michele's High School Reunion (1997) **1.55** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen  
**ITV3**  
**11.00** Film: Columbo: Forgotten Lady (1975) **1.05** Film: Vanity Fair (2004) **3.55** Film: On the Buses (1971) **5.45** A Touch of Frost **8.00** Inspector Morse **10.20** Birds of a Feather **10.50** Film: Something's Gotta Give (2003) **1.15** Blue Murder **2.40** Cornwall with Caroline Quentin **3.25** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale  
**ITV4**  
**12.00** Tour de France Highlights **1.00** Tour de France Live: La Course. The women's 90km race. **3.00** Storage Wars: New York **4.00** Tour de France Live. Coverage of the 21st stage. **7.00** Counting Cars **8.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special **9.00** Tour de France Highlights **10.00** Film: Tango & Cash (1999) **12.10** Film: DOA: Dead or Alive (2006) **1.40** Duck Dynasty **2.05** Tour de France Highlights **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**12.25** Couples Come Dine with Me **2.30** The Big Bang Theory **5.30** The Big Bang Theory – E4's Top 20 **8.00** Film: The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (2010) **10.15** Googlebox **11.55** Film: Scary Movie 2 (2001) **1.30** Tattoo Fixers **2.35** Rules of Engagement **3.20** Hollywoods  
**Film4**  
**11.00** An Elephant Called Slowly (1970) **1.00** Step Up 3 (2010) **3.10** Horton Hears a Who! (2008) **4.50** Honey, I Shrank the Kids (1989) **6.40** The Core (2003) **9.00** Taken (2008) **10.50** End of Watch (2012) **1.00** Gone Too Far! (2013)

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FILM CHOICES

**MONDAY**  
**From Hell, Channel 5, 10.55pm**  
A detective tries to use his opium-triggered visions to put an end to Jack the Ripper's reign of terror over 19th-century London. But in the course of his investigation, he uncovers a sinister conspiracy that reaches the highest levels of Victorian society. Mystery thriller, based on Alan Moore's comic book series, starring Johnny Depp. (2001)

**TUESDAY**  
**Twelve Monkeys, BBC1, 11.45pm**  
A time traveller from 2035 journeys back to the 1990s to discover the cause of a deadly disease that ravaged the world, only to be thrown into an asylum. He meets a fellow patient who may hold the key to his mission, but the longer he spends in the past, the more he comes to question whether he really is from the future or simply delusional. Terry Gilliam's sci-fi thriller, with Bruce Willis and Brad Pitt. (1995)

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Dear Viola, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
Premiere. A shy woman takes over a newspaper's advice column and soon begins to fall in love with a widower she starts corresponding with. Romantic comedy, starring Kellie Martin. (2014)



Al: Artificial Intelligence, Friday, BBC1, 11.15pm

**THURSDAY**  
**A Killer Among Us, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
A homicide detective refuses to give up when the murder of a woman goes unsolved, and continues to discreetly investigate after the case is closed. He becomes convinced the victim's husband is the killer, and recruits their teenage daughter as an accomplice to gather evidence against her own father. Crime thriller, starring Tess Atkins and Tom Cavanagh. (2012)

**FRIDAY**  
**Al: Artificial Intelligence, BBC1, 11.15pm**  
A robot boy programmed to see his owner as a parent tries to become human, so the 'mother' who rejected him will love him. Steven Spielberg's sci-fi drama, starring Haley Joel Osment, Jude Law, William Hurt and Frances O'Connor. (2001)

Couple are drawn into a dangerous world

Think of Agatha Christie and what immediately springs to mind? Probably fastidious Belgian detective Hercule Poirot and sharp-as-a-tack pensioner Miss Marple.

In fact, there are maybe even some people who have never read any of her work that believe Christie's output only features those two formidable characters.

But how wrong they are. Christie wrote a variety of books and short stories that featured neither of them, as well as four novels and a collection of tales featuring the adventures of Tommy and Tuppence Beresford, a pair of married amateur detectives.

The Beresfords first popped up in 1922, and their adventures spanned the next 50 years – indeed their final story, Postern of Fate, was the last novel written by Christie.

This take on their tales takes place solely in the 1950s and stars David Walliams and Jessica Raine as the daring duo. It also mixes espionage, drama and humour against the backdrop of the Cold War.

The first run features two stories – The Secret Adversary and N or M? – and lasts six weeks. Christie's books are relatively short and tend to be adapted into feature-length dramas, so it's refreshing that here, viewers have something to really get their teeth into – as well as the potential for cliffhangers at the end of each episode.

In fact, the whole project appears to have been put together with tender loving care.

"David Walliams and Hilary Strong from the Agatha Christie Group came to discuss the fact that they wanted to reinvent Tommy and Tuppence," says executive producer Hilary Bevan Jones. "David was particularly tickled by the idea of a married amateur detective duo and the image of them bickering over a dead body."

"Christie has a wonderful sense of humour and I'm not sure how many people of this generation know that. We decided to think of it as Indiana Jones meets Agatha Christie."

Eyebrows may be raised at the thought of Walliams playing Tommy, but Zinnie Harris, who adapted their

first case, The Secret Adversary, for the small screen, reckons he's perfect.

"David is a wonderful Tommy as I always thought he would be," she reveals. "He is a great combination of brave, gung-ho and a bit left-footed which is quite a hard thing to pull off. I love what he has done with the character."

"But more than that, David and I worked quite closely as the first script was being shaped and written so he brought masses to the whole series. He was a great collaborator as all those early decisions about tone and story were being made. In fact many of the best ideas were his."

Will we be seeing more of Tommy and Tuppence once this run is over? According to Walliams, that's up to us.

"We certainly hope there will be more Tommy and Tuppence adventures," he remarks. "There are more books to adapt and it's been a real pleasure filming these two stories. But ultimately, it's what the public think. If the public enjoy it, then I am sure there will be more. It has been a brilliant adventure so far..."



Jessica Raine and David Walliams star in Partners in Crime, Sunday, BBC1, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

**MONDAY**  
**Food Unwrapped: Diets for Summer Channel 4, 8pm**  
Jimmy Doherty, Kate Quilton and Matt Tebbutt reveal the latest scientific tips and ideas on how food can help people tone up their bodies. Jimmy goes on an east Asian adventure to look for the mystery ingredient in a new range of diet foods containing konjac noodles, which have no fat and virtually no calories, and also discovers that finding out the calorific content of alcohol isn't easy. Kate examines research suggesting eating nuts can help shed pounds rather than piling them on, while Matt investigates ways to hone biceps and abs.

**TUESDAY**  
**The Three Day Nanny Channel 4, 8pm**  
Is it really possible to turn the life of a family around in just three days? If the first run of this series is anything to go by, yes. It followed the progress of professional childminder Kathryn Mewes, who has spent the past 20 or so years taking care of youngsters. During that time, she has developed certain methods that can help parents with badly behaved children. Dom Bird, Channel 4's head of formats, says: "I am delighted to be bringing Nanny Mewes' expertise back to the screens as she

tackles the behavioural problems of a whole new set of children and fretful parents." She begins in East Grinstead, West Sussex, where Susan and James Rogers are having trouble with three-year-old twins Alfie and Harry.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**The Day They Dropped The Bomb ITV, 10.40pm**  
On August 6, 1945 the world changed forever, when a uranium gun-type atomic bomb (codenamed Little Boy) was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima by the US Air Force's Boeing B-29 Superfortress Enola Gay. Little Boy exploded 2,000 feet above the city, destroyed five square miles, and eventually killed in excess of 160,000 people. This documentary marks the 70th anniversary of the day the world's first atomic bomb was detonated, and features an in-depth account of what happened on that tragic day, through rarely seen archive footage and unique interviews with eyewitnesses. Also interviewed is Enola Gay navigator Theodore Van Kirk,



BBQ Champ, Friday, ITV, 9pm

who was the last surviving member of the crew who dropped the bomb, before his death last year.

**THURSDAY**  
**The Holiday Airport: Sun, Sea & Scousers Channel 5, 8pm**  
Grand National fever hits the airport as hundreds of excited race-goers pass through for the annual steeplechase.

A skateboarding crew from Herefordshire are en route to Barcelona, but when it turns out some of them have a fear of flying, it seems they might not get very far, while a woman who has lost more than eight stone fuels up at the airport restaurants and bars before flying out to Palma for the sporting challenge of a lifetime.

**FRIDAY**  
**BBQ Champ ITV, 9pm**  
For some people, a successful BBQ means that the burgers are only burnt on

the outside and no one goes home with food poisoning. But this new series, which could also have been called the Great British Grill Off, sees presenter Myleene Klass inviting a group of contestants to combine raw meat and fire to make something truly spectacular in the hope of being declared King or Queen of the BBQ. Each week, the hopefuls will be given two chances to impress judges Adam Richman of Man vs Food fame, and British chef and restaurateur Mark Blatchford as they take part in one challenge at BBQ HQ before heading off to another on location. This week, that means rustling up a dish that shows off their personality, before working together to create a barbecue buffet.

**Ripper Street BBC1, 9pm**  
There were howls of outrage in December 2013 when it was announced that there wouldn't be a third series of this gritty period drama. Luckily, the BBC listened, as they subsequently teamed up with Amazon Prime to revive the show. And now, for anyone who hasn't already watched it online, here's a chance to see why the fans wanted to keep it going, as the third season come to the BBC. In this opening edition, the robbery of a goods train and a locomotive disaster on Leman Street leads Reid, Drake and Jackson to reunite after four years apart.

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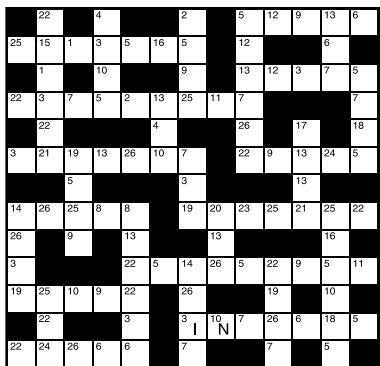
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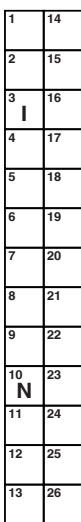
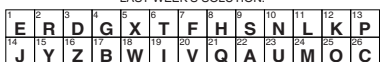
BRAIN GYM No.335

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

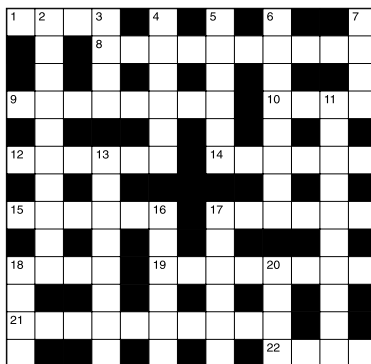
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 1. Come a cropper in the cropping season? (4)
- 8. Apropos the sign of possession... (10)
- 9. ... be seen again to gather fruit (8)
- 10. Shed players (4)
- 12. It's obvious father can camp (6)
- 14. Fearsome things almost - they can't be right! (6)
- 15. Didn't get the desired husband? (6)
- 17. Despises ship holding grain (6)
- 18. The weather they have at Spithead at present (4)
- 19. Flowers, perhaps (8)
- 21. Failed to notice being in somebody's view (10)
- 22. Favourites return at the interval (4)

Down

- 2. Later change a can with nothing in it for a change (10)
- 3. The French politician throws light on things (4)
- 4. Powerful ring given for article in 12 (6)
- 5. Averts disaster only to die of hunger (6)
- 6. Entertainment with nothing but a musical composition (8)
- 7. Master the rhythm? (4)
- 11. A season in leap-year, no doubt (10)
- 13. Tread was pointing to the rising sun (8)
- 16. It may mean no treat when he treats! (6)
- 17. Match action taken by workers (6)
- 18. Tops up here (4)
- 20. The last things to associate with odds (4)



Quick Clues:

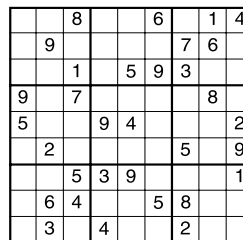
Across

- 1. Girl (4)
- 8. Ineffective (10)
- 9. Footpath (8)
- 10. Not new (4)
- 12. Amuse (6)
- 14. Marauder (6)
- 15. Put in (6)
- 17. Invent (6)
- 18. Liability (4)
- 19. Capsize (8)
- 21. Confederate (10)
- 22. Humble (4)

Down

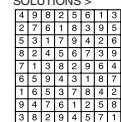
- 2. Disagreeing (2,8)
- 3. Certain (4)
- 4. Mourn (6)
- 5. Railway (6)
- 6. Light up (8)
- 7. Old (4)
- 11. Voters (10)
- 13. Building (6)
- 16. Company (6)
- 17. Believe (6)
- 18. Do business (4)
- 20. Pour (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >



LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Image; 8 Ironing; 9 Handsaw; 10 Locum; 12 Large print; 15 Rolling sea; 18 Eight; 19 Ordinal; 21 Find out; 22 Amiss. Down: 1 Light verse; 2 Maine; 3 Pens; 4 Bigwig; 5 Collapse; 6 Circuit; 11 Metabolism; 13 Aviation; 14 Elegant; 16 Ghosts; 17 Anvil; 20 Drag. QUICK - Across: 7 Touch; 8 Actions; 9 Tunes; 10 Rider; 12 Settlement; 15 Evanescent; 18 Year; 19 Uniform; 21 Classic; 22 Learn. Down: 1 Stationery; 2 Funny; 3 Chef; 4 Tablet; 5 Surgeon; 6 Soldier; 11 Retirement; 13 Evenness; 14 Caravan; 16 Crutch; 17 Focal; 20 Idle.

Thinking space

Quiz

- 1. What nationality was detective writer Georges Simenon?
- 2. In what year was the St. Valentine's Day massacre?
- 3. What type of variety act was made popular by Edgar Bergen and Ray Alan?
- 4. Who was born first, Yoko Ono or John Lennon?
- 5. With which branch of science do you associate Copernicus?
- 6. Which agricultural pioneer invented the seed drill?
- 7. What was the real surname of American black muslim leader Malcolm X?
- 8. From which country did the U.S. buy Florida?
- 9. Of which country was Juan Peron the president?
- 10. What does RADAR stand for?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Violin; 2 22; 3 Franklin D Roosevelt; 4 Hiram Maxim; 5 New Zealand; 6 Capability; 7 Ruritania; 8 1983; 9 The first men's and women's public flushing lavatories; 10 Escoffier. Niner: HYPOCRITE

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

835 gives an animal,  
91529 gives a large bird,  
5362745 gives a baby bird.



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2015	Sprite	Major 4 FB	£16,855	£16,391	£464
2015	Sterling	Continental 480	£24,300	£22,720	£1,580
2015	Sterling	Continental 530	£26,845	£24,883	£1,962
2015	Sterling	Continental 570	£26,845	£24,883	£1,962
2015	Sterling	Continental 630	£29,545	£27,178	£2,367
2015	Sterling	Continental 645	£29,545	£27,178	£2,367
2015	Sterling	Eccles QUARTZ	£22,675	£21,338	£1,337
2015	Sterling	Eccles SE Quartz	£22,675	£21,338	£1,337
2015	Swift	Challenger SE 480	£20,500	£19,940	£1,010
2015	Swift	Challenger SE 580	£22,675	£21,338	£1,337
2015	Sterling	Eccles Sport 524	£18,745	£17,998	£747

Year	Make	Model	WAS	NOW	SAVE
2010	Swift	Challenger 540	£13,750	£12,995	£755
2011	Bailey	Unicorn Valencia	£16,695	£14,995	£1,700
2007	Elddis	Odysse	£10,695	£9,495	£1,200
2009	Swift	Conqueror 540	£13,995	£12,495	£1,500
2008	Swift	Challenger 480	£10,995	£9,695	£1,300
2007	ACE	Award Brightstar	£9,395	£8,295	£1,100
2010	Swift	Charisma 545	£13,395	£11,995	£1,400
2002	Bailey	Senator Arizona	£8,495	£5,995	£2,500
2008	Swift	Conqueror 540	£12,195	£10,995	£1,200
2010	Bailey	Olympus 462	£11,595	£10,295	£1,300

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Bruce Forsyth, Roy Castle, Ben Warris and Ken Dodd, around 1940



Son Paul Langston with a pic of his mother in the 1940s



Amy's second husband Ken Shepherd with comedy legend Tommy Cooper



The Hippodrome during its heyday in the 1950s



Amy with box office manager Mrs Smallwood

# Mixing with the stars just the ticket for Amy

**SHARING a dance with Richard Attenborough was one of the perks of the job for Amy Shepherd, who rubbed shoulders with the stars during a 20-year stint at Dudley Hippodrome.**

By David Cosgrove

"You had to know every gangway, every seat, and relate that to the ticket books when people rang in."

According to Paul, his mother "saw them all" -with celebrities including Bob Hope, Julie Andrews, George Formby, Bruce Forsyth, Laurel and Hardy, and Morecambe and Wise all performing at the Hippodrome during her time there.

But experience stands out as a special memory. "She was lucky enough at one stage to dance with Richard Attenborough in the Station Hotel opposite, which is where all the stars stayed," he said.

Growing up in and around the venue at its peak was a thrilling experience for Paul and his brother Neil, 58.

"We used to go and watch all of the pantomimes," he said. "It was a magnificent place and one of the best lighted theatres in Europe."

Mrs Shepherd worked at the

Hippodrome until it closed in 1965 and both her two husbands were employed at the venue. Her first marriage was to Keith Langston, Paul's father, who worked as a stage-hand at the venue and went on to be the stage manager at The Plaza in West Bromwich. He died in 1966.

She went on to marry Ken Shepherd, a former stage manager at the Hippodrome and moved to run the Victoria Hotel in Cradley Heath in 1971.

She remained at the hotel until retiring in 1992, but Mr Shepherd passed away just nine months into her retirement.

From 1993 onwards Mrs Shepherd lived in a cottage in Kingswinford and died on July 4 aged 89 after a short illness. Her funeral service took place on Tuesday at Gornal Wood Crematorium.

Mr Langston said he hoped the theatre's future would be secured and that it would be restored to its former glory.



Amy Shepherd, who recently died, pictured in 1944

  
South Staffs Water

 Walsall Council

**South Staffs Water and Walsall Council are working in tandem to minimise disruption as a result of water and road improvements along Lichfield Road and Pelsall Road.**

- The A4124 Lichfield Road will be closed between the junctions of Norton Road and Apex Road between Sunday 19 July and Sunday 6 September.
- Access to residential properties between Norton Road and Highcroft will be maintained via Lothians Road.
- Access to Stevie Ansell's Riding Centre will be maintained via Pelsall Road and Brownhills.

South Staffs Water's information vehicle will be in the area next week. For further information and to find details of locations visit [www.south-staffs-water.co.uk](http://www.south-staffs-water.co.uk)

We apologise for any inconvenience.





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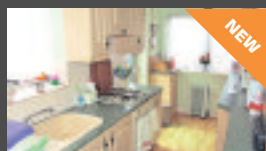
**WILLENHALL RUGELEY AVENUE**  
 • Much Improved 3 Bedroom Semi Detached  
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**LANE HEAD HIGH ROAD**  
 • Traditional Semi Detached Property  
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 • Bathroom, Long Gardens, Driveway  
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**£105,000**



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 • Extended Kitchen  
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**Three Bedroom**  
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 • Driveway  
 • Rear Gardens  
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 • Superb 2 Bedroom Detached Bungalow  
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 • Bathroom, Double Glazing • Gas CH  
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 • Bathroom • Driveway • Rear Gardens  
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**WILLENHALL COPPICE LANE**  
 • Traditional Bay Fronted Semi Detached  
 • Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility  
 • Three Good Size Bedrooms, Bathroom, Drive  
 • Gas CH Majority D Glaz, Gardens, No Chain  
**£115,000**



**WILLENHALL ALVINGTON CLOSE**  
 • Improved 3 Bedroom Semi Detached  
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 • Double Width Driveway, Gardens, Gas Ch, D Glaz  
**OFFERS OVER £120,000**



**SNEYD PARK DRUID PARK ROAD**  
 • Well Appointed Semi Detached Property  
 • Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory  
 • Bathroom • Garage • Block Paved Driveway  
 • Gas CH • Double Glazing • Rear Gardens, No Chain  
**OFFERS OVER £120,000**

**WANTED**  
**A TWO BEDROOM**  
**BUNGALOW**  
**ON SUMMER**  
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**£150,000 FOR**  
**MRS J**



**WILLENHALL HODSON AVENUE**  
 • Much Improved 3 Bedrooms Semi Detached  
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 • Block Paved Driveway, Pleasant Rear Gardens  
**£115,000**



**WILLENHALL SHEPPELL GREEN**  
 • Improved Traditional Semi Detached  
 • Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen  
 • Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing  
 • Gas Central Heating, Driveway, Gardens  
**£119,000**



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 • Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom  
 • Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating System  
 • Rear Gardens, No Upward Chain  
**£100,000**

**WANTED**  
**A THREE**  
**BEDROOM SEMI**  
**DETACHED IN**  
**BENTLEY UP TO**  
**£125,000 FOR**  
**MRS R**

**WANTED**  
**A THREE**  
**BEDROOM**  
**DETACHED IN**  
**NEW INVENTION**  
**UP TO £165,000**  
**FOR MR N**

**WANTED**  
**A TWO**  
**BEDROOM SEMI**  
**DETACHED ON**  
**SNEYD PARK UP**  
**TO £120,000**  
**FOR MR M**

**WANTED**  
**A MODERN TWO**  
**BEDROOM SEMI**  
**DETACHED IN**  
**WILLENHALL UP**  
**TO £125,000**  
**FOR MR/S T**

**WANTED**  
**ANY PROPERTIES**  
**WITH MINE**  
**ISSUES IN**  
**WILLENHALL**  
**AND BENTLEY**  
**FOR MR G**

**WANTED**  
**A FOUR**  
**BEDROOM**  
**DETACHED UP**  
**TO £225,000**  
**ON COPPICE**  
**FARM FOR MR H**

**WANTED**  
**A THREE**  
**BEDROOM SEMI**  
**NEAR STROUD**  
**AVENUE UP TO**  
**£145,000 FOR**  
**MRS T**





# Period property lies in a sought-after location

## Semi-detached ideal for first-time buyer

**THIS beautiful semi on Yarnigale Road, Kings Heath, is ideal for first-time buyers.**

Neutrally decorated throughout, the ground floor benefits from an entrance hallway, open-plan living/dining room, kitchen with some integrated appliances and space for a fridge/freezer, and a conservatory leading to the garden.

The first floor has three good-sized bedrooms as well as a fully-tiled family bathroom.

To the rear of the property is a generous-sized garden with paved and lawned areas and borders. To the front is a paved driveway with room for multiple cars.

For further information visit [www.cpbigwood.com](http://www.cpbigwood.com) or contact 0121 233 0500.



**THIS delightful semi on Lichfield Road, Walsall, is in a sought-after location. It is for sale through Paul Dubberley Estate Agents for £245,000.**

The ground-floor of this period property comprises of a reception hall, WC with partly-tiled walls, lounge with a feature fireplace, dining room, fitted kitchen with splashback tiles, utility room and a sunroom with a gas fire and doors leading to the garden.

Upstairs there are four generous-sized bedrooms, including an en suite master, a study and a family bathroom with a white suite, partly tiled walls and a heated towel rail.

To the rear of the property is a mature garden with paved and lawn areas, a timber shed and courtyard area.

The front of the property benefits from a paved driveway. Visit [www.pauldubberley.co.uk](http://www.pauldubberley.co.uk) or contact 01922 241100 to arrange a viewing.



## Extended cottage is full of character



**DECEPTIVELY spacious, this extended cottage is full of charm and character and set in a wonderful location.**

Approached from a private track leading to a spacious gravelled hard-standing area providing off-road parking for a number of vehicles, Woodend Cottage, Ribblesford Road, Areley Kings, Stourport-on-Severn, is for sale through Halls at £455,000.

It has porch, a spacious entrance hall and living room, living/dining room and a kitchen. There is also a utility room, garden room, WC, second porch, three bedrooms and a bathroom.

The stunning gardens include a detached garage/workshop and a feature cascading waterfall feature.

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## Modern three-bedroom detached for £189,995

A WELL-presented modern three-bed detached in Grayling Close, Wednesbury, is for sale through Skitts at £189,995. It comprises an entrance porch, hallway, lounge area, dining room, utility room, kitchen and conservatory. Bedrooms include a master en suite. A garage has side access to the rear garden and a driveway provides off-road parking. Visit [www.skitts.net](http://www.skitts.net) or contact 0121 505 1818.



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## Barn conversion in idyllic setting close to Clent Hills on the market

THE beautifully situated, Shut Mill Barn, in Shut Mill Lane, Romsley is an attached barn conversion ideally placed for commuting.

It is for sale through Allan Morris estate agents at £449,950.

Close to the Clent Hills, this splendid barn conversion lies back from a scenic country lane. It has a sweeping in/out gravelled driveway bordered by a brook fed from the millpond behind a neighbouring cottage.

Accommodation comprises dining hall, inner hallway with a WC, lounge with inglenook fireplace and logburner, fourth bedroom/study and breakfast kitchen.

The master bedroom has a dressing room and en suite, there are two further double bedrooms and a bathroom. Outside are gardens and a double garage.

Contact 01562 747755 or visit [www.allan-morris.co.uk](http://www.allan-morris.co.uk) for details or to make a viewing appointment.



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Non traditionally constructed semi detached property situated in a popular residential area in need of full modernisation and improvement. Ground Floor Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Rear Lobby, Shower Room. First Floor Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three, Bathroom and Separate W.C. Outside: Overgrown Fore and Rear Gardens.

●Guide Price £45,000 - £50,000



Traditional mid terraced in need of complete modernisation and improvement conveniently located comprising: Ground Floor: Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Side Entry, First Floor: Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three, Bathroom. Outside Fore and Rear Gardens.

●Guide Price £30,000 - £35,000



This mid terraced residence situated in a popular residential area offers great scope for further improvement and would be ideal for a first time buyer or investor. With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Ground Floor: Front Living Room with window to front, leading to under star cupboard, Rear Living Room, Kitchen with window to side and door leading to garden, Bathroom. First Floor: Bedroom One with window to front, Bedroom Two with window to rear and small cupboard situated above the stairs. Outside: Side passage leading to a very well maintained floral garden

●Guide Price £50,000 PLUS



This commercial property with double glazing holds a lot of potential and is located a short walk from both Walsall town centre and Walsall train station. With three floors of office space the property is an ideal opportunity for redevelopment and could be converted to residential (subject to planning approval). The property comprises:- Ground Floor front door to hall providing access to stairs to first floor and office 1 (front), office 2, office 3 with fitted kitchen as well as access to WC First Floor Landing leads to office 4 (front), office 5 (rear) leading to small cupboard and stairs to second floor. Second Floor Landing leads to office 6 (front), office 7, office 8 with access to small cupboard

●Guide Price £90,000 PLUS



Traditional end terraced property conveniently located ideal for the investor (purchasers are advised to view the mining search). Ground Floor: Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, First Floor: Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bathroom with coloured suite. Outside Attractive Fore and Enclosed Rear Garden.

●Guide Price £30,000 - £35,000



This fire damaged traditional three bedroom mid terraced is in need of complete modernisation and improvement. Ground Floor: Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Side Entry, First Floor: Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three, Bathroom. Outside: Fore and Rear Gardens.

●Guide Price £30,000 - £35,000



A Three Bedroom Semi detached Dorma Bungalow situated in a popular residential area in Great Barr. This well maintained bungalow also offers access to a superbly presented garden. Will all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Ground Floor: Side door leads to hall with access to stairs, Hall leads to Bedroom One with window to front, Dining Room with window to front, Lounge with include patio doors which open to rear garden Bathroom, Kitchen which includes a range of units and also includes a back door with access to rear garden. First Floor: Stairs lead to Bedroom Two with window to front and Bedroom Three.

●Guide Price £90,000 PLUS



These four Victorian terraced properties which have been extended at ground floor level currently provide office and meeting room facilities, with double glazing and gas central heating the development offers a number of uses and needs to be viewed internally to appreciate the scope of the deceptive accommodation. Entrance Hall, Office, Three Rooms, Kitchen, Meeting Room, Office/Reception, Office, Meeting Room, Computer Room, Store, Male and Female W.C.'s. First Floor: Ten Rooms and W.C. Buyers Premium: A Buyers Premium of £900.00 (inclusive of V.A.T.) will be charged in addition to the Auctioneers Administration Fee.

●Guide Price £240,000 PLUS



This Three bedroom Semi Detached property is situated in a popular residential area and is in need of modernisation and improvement. This property with double glazing and Central heating offers great potential for an investor. With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Bathroom, Covered Passage, Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three.

●Guide Price £50,000 PLUS



Ideally suited to the needs to a first time buyer, more mature purchaser or investor this well maintained, two bedroom semi detached property lends itself to further expansions (subject to the necessary planning) and is situated in a convenient and popular location with the added benefit of Tamebridge Railway Station within walking distance. With uPVC double glazed and gas fired central heating the property in brief comprises: Enclosed Porch, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore Garden with Ample off Road Parking, Rear Garden with Utility and Garage. EPC Rating D

●Guide Price £90,000 PLUS



Traditional end terraced property in need of complete modernisation and improvement offering opportunity for builder or investor. Ground Floor: Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Door to Lobby and Store, Bathroom. First Floor: Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three. Outside: Fore and Rear Gardens.

●Guide Price £44,000 - £50,000



A traditional mid terraced property conveniently located but in need of complete modernisation and improvement (limited viewing available at viewers risk). With front driveway the property comprises: Ground Floor: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Rear Lobby, Wet Room, Side Entry, First Floor: Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three, Additional Bedroom/ Potential Bathroom, Separate W.C. Outside: Driveway with Fore Garden, Rear Gardens.

●Guide Price £35,000 - £40,000



A purpose built leasehold first floor maisonette, situated in a quiet cul de sac, close to all amenities. Ideally suited to an investor and offering good yields the gas centrally heated and double glazed accommodation is in need of some upgrade and comprises: Fully enclosed Porch, Kitchen, Lounge, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom.

●Guide Price £30,000 PLUS



Occupying a convenient location within easy access of Walsall Town Centre and the motorway network, this traditional semi detached property has double glazing but is in need of modernisation and improvement. (Prospective purchasers are advised to check the mining report which will be available via our legal pack). Ground Floor: Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Front Reception Room, Rear Reception Room, Extended Kitchen. First Floor: Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three, Bathroom Outside. Small fore garden and good size rear garden, double gate leading off the main road to off street parking with separate detached wooden garage (the access to which, we understand is subject to a Peppercorn rent)

●Guide Price £65,000 PLUS



This Three bedroom end terraced property is in need of complete modernisation and improvement. Access for the property is gained through a tunnel entry. With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Ground Floor: Lounge with bay window to front, Living Room, stairs lead to Hallway with door which provides access to the rear of the property, Rear Room, Utility which also contains a bathroom and W.C. First Floor: Stairs Lead to Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three.

●Guide Price £55,000 PLUS



This Three bedroom terraced property is in need of complete modernisation and improvement. Access for the property is gained through a tunnel entry. With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Ground Floor: Lounge with bay window to front, Living Room, stairs lead to Hallway with door which provides access to the rear of the property, Rear Room, Utility which also contains a bathroom and W.C. (Not inspected by Auctioneer) First Floor: Stairs Lead to Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three.

●Guide Price £55,000 PLUS



Traditionally styled mid terraced property in need of complete modernisation and is located in a popular residential area. (Purchasers are advised to check the interpretive mining report) With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Ground Floor: Front door leads to hallway with access to stairs, Kitchen, Lounge, Lobby, First Floor: Stairs lead to Bedroom One, Bedroom Two, Bedroom Three, Bathroom and W.C. Outside: Front and Rear gardens both overgrown and in need of work.

●Guide Price £59,000 PLUS



This large detached property situated in a popular residential area is in need of modernisation and offers great scope for improvement. With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Ground Floor Porch leads to Entrance hall with access to stairs, Living Dining Room with bay window to front, Kitchen with windows offering views of the garden and rear door for access to the garden and another door with access to the front of the property, W.C. First Floor: Stairs lead to Landing with access to bathroom with separate W.C. Bedroom One with Bay window to front, Bedroom Two with window to front, Bedroom Three with window to rear offering views of the rear garden.

●Guide Price £127,500 PLUS



This Large Detached property is set on a corner plot on the popular Wood Green Road, the property is in need of modernisation and improvement and is ideally suited for an investor who can capitalise on the great scope this property offers. With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Ground Floor: Front porch leads to entrance hall with access to stairs, Living Room with window to front, Lounge with bay window to front, Kitchen with window to rear and door to side passage. Side passage leads to W.C. Storage room and Garage which is accessible from Rooth Street. First Floor: Landing leads to Bedroom One with window to front and rear, Bedroom Two with window to front and fitted wardrobe, Bedroom Three and Bathroom.

●Guide Price £125,000 PLUS

●Guides are provided as an indication of each seller's minimum expectation. They are not necessarily figures which a property will sell for and may change at any time prior to the auction. Each property will be offered subject to a Reserve (a figure below which the Auctioneer cannot sell the property during the auction) which we expect will be set within the Guide Range or no more than 10% above a single figure Guide





**Brownhills**  
**01543 226655**  
High Street, Brownhills, Walsall, WS8 6ED



**Goodchilds**  
Estate Agents & Lettings



Walsall Road, Walsall  
• Superbly Designed Detached Bungalow  
• Set on 0.8 Acre Plot  
• Three Bedrooms all having En-Suites  
• Grand Entrance Hallway  
• Lounge with Inglenook Fireplace  
• Fitted Kitchen

£450,000



Sutton Road, Walsall  
• Detached Dormer Bungalow  
• Sought After Location  
• Close to popular Primary and Secondary Schools  
• Off Road Parking  
• Four Bedrooms

Offers in Excess of £400,000



Lawnswood Drive, Walsall Wood  
• Spacious Detached  
• Four Bedrooms  
• Master Bedroom having En-Suite Bathroom  
• Lounge  
• Kitchen/Diner

£350,000



REDUCED

Nutmeg Grove, Walsall  
• Extended Five Bedroom Detached  
• Lounge  
• Open Plan Kitchen/Diner  
• Utility/Guest W.C.  
• En-Suite  
• Three Further First Floor Bedrooms  
• Family Bathroom  
• Second Floor Loft Conversion with

£319,995



Westminster Road, Rushall  
• No Upward Chain  
• Executive Detached Residence  
• Breakfast Kitchen  
• Conservatory  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Study

£300,000



Shire Lea, Brownhills  
• Four Bed Detached Dormer Bungalow  
• Guest Cloakroom  
• Spacious Lounge  
• Refitted Breakfast Kitchen  
• Family Bathroom  
• Spacious Lounge

£300,000



Bamford Road, Bloxwich  
• Impressive Detached Residence  
• Superb Kitchen/Diner  
• Utility Room  
• Guest Cloakroom  
• Lounge  
• Luxury Refitted Bathroom

Offers in Excess of £210,000



Lincoln Road, Walsall  
• Much Extended & Improved Property  
• Two Storey Rear Extension  
• Delightful Rear Garden  
• Block Paved Driveway  
• Close to Several Popular Schools  
• Near to Walsall Arboretum

£210,000



Chester Road, Brownhills  
• Three Bedroom Detached  
• Spacious Lounge  
• Open plan Kitchen  
• Dining room  
• Bathroom  
• Guest WC

£200,000



Norton Road, Pelsall  
• Superbly Appointed Link Detached Bungalow  
• Three Bedrooms  
• Kitchen/Diner  
• Bathroom  
• Lounge

£199,950



Vernon Way, Bloxwich  
• Two/Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow  
• One/Two Reception Rooms  
• Fully Fitted Kitchen  
• Ground Floor Bathroom  
• Master Bedroom with En-Suite Shower Room

Offers in Excess of £195,000



Collins Road, Shire Oak  
• Extended Family Home  
• Corner Plot with Further Potential  
• Off Road Parking  
• Superb Extended Living Kitchen  
• Play Room/Study  
• Guest Cloakroom/WC

£190,000



Lord Street, Walsall  
• Three Bedroom, Detached  
• Off Road Parking  
• Garage  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• No Upward Chain  
• Viewing Essential

£165,000



John Riley Drive, Willenhall  
• Three Bedroom Detached  
• Extended Entrance Hall  
• Lounge  
• Fitted Kitchen with Integrated Appliance  
• Family Bathroom  
• Integral Garage

£139,995



Beechtree Road, Walsall Wood  
• Entrance Hall  
• Guest Cloakroom  
• Lounge  
• Dining Room  
• Kitchen  
• Three Bedrooms

£139,950



Pelsall Road, Brownhills  
• Modern Semi-Detached  
• 2 Bedrooms  
• Solar Panels & Log Burner  
• Reduced Energy Bills  
• Refitted Kitchen/Diner  
• Off Road Parking

£139,950



Rough Brook Road, Bloxwich  
• Immaculately Presented Property  
• Side Garage  
• Driveway  
• Cul-de-Sac Location  
• Fitted Kitchen  
• En-Suite to Master

£139,950



Newhome Way, Bloxwich  
• Three Storey Town House  
• Three Bedrooms  
• Garage  
• Off Road Parking  
• Kitchen/Diner  
• Spacious Lounge with Juliet Balcony

£135,000



Ravenscroft Road, Willenhall  
• Extended Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
• Lounge  
• Fitted Kitchen  
• Additional Sitting Room/Bedroom  
• Ground Floor Wet Room  
• Three Bedrooms

Offers in Excess of £135,000



Norton East Road, Norton Canes  
• No Upward Chain  
• Off Road Parking  
• Front & Rear Gardens  
• Lounge  
• Breakfast Kitchen  
• Close to Chasewater Park

£134,950



Warren Place, Brownhills  
• Large Corner Plot  
• End of Terrace  
• Popular Cul-de-Sac location  
• Lounge with dual aspect windows  
• Kitchen  
• Utility Room

£120,000



Pelsall Lane, Rushall  
• Ideal First Purchase  
• Superb Kitchen/Diner  
• Family Friendly Rear Garden  
• Off Road Parking  
• Refitted Kitchen & Bathroom  
• Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing

Offers in Excess of £120,000



Tannery Court, Walsall  
• Two Bedroom Coach House  
• New Build Development  
• No Upward Chain  
• Garage  
• Close to Town Centre  
• Viewing Essential

£120,000



Wilkin Road, Brownhills  
• End of Terrace  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Breakfast Kitchen  
• Refitted Luxury Bathroom  
• Two Double Bedrooms and Further Loft Room

£118,000



Irvine Road, Brownhills  
• THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED  
• CORNER PLOT WITH LARGE REAR GARDEN  
• GARAGE TO REAR  
• TWO RECEPTION ROOMS  
• FITTED KITCHEN  
• LUXURY BATHROOM

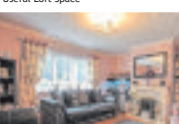
£115,000



NEW

Glastonbury Crescent, Bloxwich

• No Upward Chain  
• Garage  
• Off Road Parking  
• Refitted Kitchen  
• Lounge  
• Three bedrooms  
• Refitted Bathroom  
• Useful Loft Space



£115,000



Tasker Street, Walsall  
• Exclusive Development  
• Small Block of 8 Apartments  
• Available Off Plan  
• Close to Town Centre  
• Allocated Parking  
• No Upward Chain

£110,000



Basalt Close, Birchills  
• Modern Town House  
• Cul-De-Sac Location  
• Two Double Bedrooms  
• Fitted Kitchen  
• Lounge/Diner  
• Off Road Parking

£100,000



Moore Road, New Invention  
• Two Bed Semi-Detached  
• Entrance hall  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Fitted Kitchen  
• Utility  
• Family Bathroom

Offers in Excess of £100,000



Lapwing Close, Brownhills  
• No Upward Chain  
• Sought After Watermead Grange Development  
• Two Double Bedrooms  
• En-Suite  
• Fitted Kitchen with appliances

Offers in Excess of £100,000



Rough Brook Road, Rushall  
• Show Home Style Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment  
• Lounge/Dining Room  
• Fitted Kitchen including Integrated Appliances  
• Master Bedroom with En-Suite Shower

£100,000



NEW

Terret Close, Walsall  
• Modern Two Bedroom Apartment  
• Located Close to Walsall Town Centre  
• Secure Gated Car Park  
• Allocated Parking Space  
• Secure Communal Entrance  
• Lounge with Juliet Balconies

£92,500



Bloxwich Road, Bloxwich  
• Refurbished Victorian Terrace  
• Two Double Bedrooms  
• Refitted Kitchen  
• Through Lounge  
• Ground Floor WC  
• Refitted First Floor Bathroom

£90,000

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**Walsall**  
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 7 Queens Parade, Walsall, WS3 2EX



**Coalheath Lane, Shelfield**  
 • Extended Link Detached Dormer Bungalow  
 • Three Bedrooms  
 • Lounge  
 • Conservatory  
 • Superb Extended Kitchen/Diner  
 • Large Driveway

£260,000



**Quinton Place, Norton Canes**  
 • Executive Detached Family Home  
 • Refitted Breakfast Kitchen  
 • Three Reception Rooms  
 • Four Bedrooms  
 • Master with En-Suite Shower Room  
 • Front & Rear Gardens

£249,950



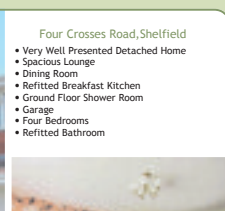
**Field Road, Bloxwich**  
 • Imposing Detached Property  
 • Extended Kitchen/Diner  
 • Garage  
 • Off Road Parking  
 • Superb Rear Garden  
 • Two Reception Rooms

Offers in Excess of £240,000



**Four Crosses Road, Shelfield**  
 • Very Well Presented Detached Home  
 • Spacious Lounge  
 • Dining Room  
 • Refitted Breakfast Kitchen  
 • Ground Floor Shower Room  
 • Garage  
 • Four Bedrooms  
 • Refitted Bathroom

£234,950



**Shrubbery Close, Walsall**  
 • 2 Bed Apartment  
 • Close to Abertum  
 • Low Maintenance Living  
 • Secure Gated Development  
 • Superb Character and High Ceilings  
 • No Upward Chain

£240,000



**Lincoln Road, Walsall**  
 • Deceptively Spacious Detached Home  
 • Set in Delightful Grounds on a Corner Plot  
 • Superb Refitted Breakfast Kitchen  
 • Spacious Lounge  
 • Three Double Bedrooms  
 • Master Bedrooms with En-Suite & Walk-in

£215,000



£164,950



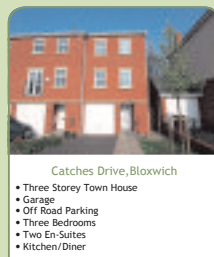
**Camden Street, Walsall Wood**  
 • 3 Bed Victorian Style Semi-Detached  
 • Many Original Character Features  
 • Detached Garage & Ample Parking  
 • Attractive & Private Rear Garden  
 • Three Reception Rooms  
 • Ground Floor Shower Room & WC  
 • First Floor Bathroom  
 • Viewing Essential



£164,950



**Widney Avenue, Aldridge**  
 • Traditional Semi-Detached  
 • 3 Bedrooms  
 • Family Friendly Rear Garden  
 • Desirable Location  
 • Further Potential to Extend/Improve  
 • Off Road Parking  
 • Garage  
 • Viewing Essential



£159,950

**Catches Drive, Bloxwich**  
 • Three Storey Town House  
 • Garage  
 • Off Road Parking  
 • Three Bedrooms  
 • Two En-Suites  
 • Kitchen/Diner



£155,000

**Wrekin View, Shire Oak**  
 • No Upward Chain  
 • Extended Traditional Semi-Detached  
 • Through Lounge  
 • Refitted Breakfast Kitchen  
 • Attractive Front & Rear Gardens  
 • Garage



£155,000

**Mayfields Drive, Brownhills**  
 • Extended Modern Family Home  
 • Sought After Cul-De-Sac Location  
 • Superb Refitted Breakfast Kitchen  
 • Lounge  
 • Dining Area  
 • Refitted Family Bathroom



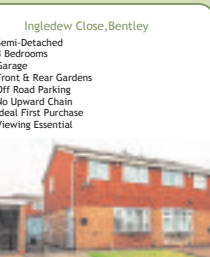
£130,000

**The Pines, Walsall**  
 • Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
 • Lounge/Dining Room  
 • Kitchen  
 • Family Bathroom  
 • Conservatory  
 • Garage/Games Room



£130,000

**Ingledew Close, Bentley**  
 • Semi-Detached  
 • 3 Bedrooms  
 • Garage  
 • Front & Rear Gardens  
 • Off Road Parking  
 • No Upward Chain  
 • Ideal First Purchase  
 • Viewing Essential



Offers in Excess of £126,000

**Oakridge Close, Willenhall**  
 • Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
 • Kitchen/Diner  
 • Family Bathroom  
 • Entrance Porch  
 • Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating



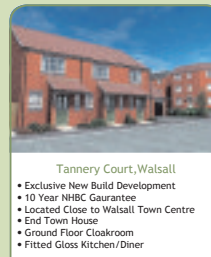
Offers in Excess of £125,000

**Red Lion Avenue, Cannock**  
 • No Upward Chain  
 • Off Road Parking  
 • Refitted Modern Kitchen  
 • Chasewater Grange Nearby  
 • Three Bedrooms  
 • Refitted Bathroom



£125,000

**Tannery Court, Walsall**  
 • Exclusive New Build Development  
 • 10 Year NHBC Guarantee  
 • Located Close to Walsall Town Centre  
 • End Town House  
 • Ground Floor Cloakroom  
 • Fitted Gloss Kitchen/Diner



£120,000

**Ida Road, Walsall**  
 • Three Bed Semi-Detached  
 • Planning Permission to Become Flats  
 • Investment Opportunity  
 • Close to Walsall Town Centre  
 • Close to Walsall Manor Hospital  
 • No Upward Chain



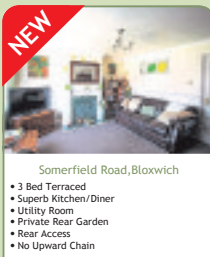
£114,950

**Springfields, Rushall**  
 • 3 Bedroom End Terrace  
 • Porch  
 • Kitchen/Diner  
 • Attractive Rear Garden  
 • Brilliant First Time Buy  
 • Viewing Essential



£110,000

**Lime Grove, Rushall**  
 • No Upward Chain  
 • Three Bedrooms  
 • Refitted Breakfast Kitchen  
 • Spacious Lounge  
 • Front & Rear Gardens  
 • Close to Rushall Primary & Aldridge Sec.



£110,000

**Somerfield Road, Bloxwich**  
 • 3 Bed Terraced  
 • Superb Kitchen/Diner  
 • Utility Room  
 • Private Rear Garden  
 • Rear Access  
 • No Upward Chain



Offers in Excess of £110,000

**Chantry Avenue, Blakenall**  
 • Spacious Semi-Detached  
 • Corner Plot  
 • Large Side Garage  
 • Ideal First Purchase or Family Home  
 • Refitted Kitchen & Bathroom  
 • Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing



£110,000

**Littleton Road, Willenhall**  
 • 3 Bed End Terrace  
 • Located Close to New Invention School  
 • Overlooking Playing Fields  
 • Off Road Parking  
 • Garage  
 • Front & Rear Gardens



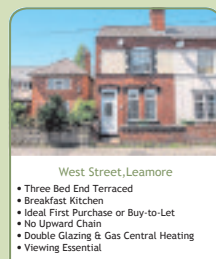
Offers in Excess of £110,000

**Lichfield Road, Willenhall**  
 • Modern Coach House  
 • Two Bedrooms  
 • Third Bedroom/Playroom  
 • Fitted Kitchen  
 • Luxury Bathroom  
 • Allocated Parking



£110,000

**Penderel Street, Bloxwich**  
 • Three Bedroom End Terrace  
 • No Upward Chain  
 • Lounge  
 • Fitted Kitchen  
 • Sun Room  
 • Off Road Parking



£87,950

**West Street, Leamore**  
 • Three Bed End Terraced  
 • Breakfast Kitchen  
 • Ideal First Purchase or Buy-to-Let  
 • No Upward Chain  
 • Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating  
 • Viewing Essential



£85,000

**Revival Street, Bloxwich**  
 • Two Bedroom Terraced  
 • Ideal First Purchase  
 • Refitted Kitchen  
 • Wet Room  
 • Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing  
 • No Upward Chain  
 • Near to Bloxwich High Street  
 • Viewing Essential



£85,000

**West Street, Leamore**  
 • Two Bedroom Terraced  
 • Two Reception Rooms  
 • Refitted Oak Kitchen  
 • Fitted Kitchen  
 • Ground Floor Bathroom  
 • Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating  
 • No Upward Chain



Offers in Excess of £80,000

**West Street, Leamore**  
 • Two Bed Terrace  
 • Two Reception Rooms  
 • Refitted Kitchen  
 • Fitted Kitchen  
 • Ground Floor Bathroom  
 • Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating  
 • No Upward Chain



£78,000

**Howdles Lane, Brownhills**  
 • Three Bedrooms  
 • Balcony  
 • Open Plan Living Space  
 • Refitted Kitchen  
 • Ample Car Parking Available  
 • Viewing Essential



£75,000

**School Lofts, Walsall**  
 • Two Bed Apartment  
 • Lounge/Dining Room  
 • Kitchen with Integrated Appliances  
 • Shower Room  
 • Secure Allocated Parking  
 • Double Glazing

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**Goodchilds**  
Estate Agents & Lettings



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Curlew Drive, Walsall  
• Detached David Wilson Home  
• Four Bedrooms  
• En-Suite to Master  
• Spacious Lounge  
• Dining Room  
• Conservatory

£275,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Wood Lane Close, Willenhall  
• Detached Dormer Bungalow  
• Four Double Bedrooms  
• Fitted Kitchen/Diner  
• Charming Lounge with Open Fireplace  
• Ground Floor Shower Room  
• First Floor Bathroom

£275,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Mount Road, Walsall  
• Four Bedroom Detached  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Fitted Breakfast Kitchen with Appliances  
• Utility Room  
• Garage/Study  
• Two En-Suite Bathrooms

£265,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Lambourne Way, Cannock  
• Impressive Executive Detached  
• Four Bedrooms  
• Master Having En-Suite  
• Three Reception Rooms  
• Fitted Breakfast Kitchen  
• Front & Rear Gardens

£250,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Leigh Road, Walsall  
• Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Newly Fitted Breakfast Kitchen  
• Lounge  
• Three Double Bedrooms  
• Family Bathroom with Walk-In Shower

£230,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Westfield Drive, Walsall  
• Three bedroom Townhouse  
• Gas Central Heating  
• Double Glazing  
• Lounge  
• Kitchen/Diner  
• Family Bathroom

£209,995



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Oaklands Way, Walsall  
• Extended & Much Improved Home  
• Superb Views Over Bowling Green & Tennis Courts  
• A Short Walk to Pelsall Village  
• Off Road Parking  
• Garage

£190,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Selsdon Road, Walsall  
• Three Bedroom Detached  
• Side Garage  
• Off Road Parking  
• Front and Rear Gardens  
• Lounge  
• Dining Room

£175,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Ogley Road, Walsall  
• Superb Detached Family Residence  
• No Upward Chain  
• Three Double Bedrooms  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Converted Garage to Office/Playroom  
• Refitted Breakfast Kitchen

£165,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Bealeys Close, Walsall  
• Two Bedroom Coach House  
• Quiet Cul-de-Sac Location  
• Lounge  
• Fitted Kitchen  
• Master Bedroom En Suite  
• Bathroom

£140,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Claverdon Close, Walsall  
• Immaculate Modern Semi-Detached  
• Cul-de-Sac Location  
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• Two Allocated Parking Spaces  
• Fitted Kitchen/Diner

£140,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Ada Wrighton Close, Willenhall  
• Well Presented Town House  
• Cul-de-Sac Location  
• Lounge  
• Fitted Kitchen  
• Integral Garage  
• Three Bedrooms

£125,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Brownhills Road, Cannock  
• Beautifully Presented Semi-Detached  
• Ideal First Purchase  
• Two Double Bedrooms  
• Lounge  
• Superb Fitted Kitchen  
• Luxurious Shower Room

£125,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Deepmore Avenue, Walsall  
• Within 1 Mile of Walsall Town Centre  
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• Off Road Parking  
• Family Friendly Rear Garden

£115,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Daw End Lane, Walsall  
• No Upward Chain  
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• Front & Rear Gardens

£115,000



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Subject to Contract

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• No Upward Chain  
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• Two Reception Rooms  
• Delightful Front & Rear Gardens  
• Three Bedrooms

£110,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Wallace Road, Walsall  
• No Upward Chain  
• Sought After Location  
• Close Proximity to the High Street  
• 0.7 Miles from Walsall Primary School  
• Delightful Front & Rear Gardens

£110,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Poplar Avenue, Walsall  
• NO UPWARD CHAIN  
• IDEAL FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS  
• CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION  
• LARGE REAR GARDEN  
• OFF ROAD PARKING  
• LOUNGE

£110,000



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Subject to Contract

Netley Road, Walsall  
• Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
• In Need of Some Modernisation  
• Popular Mossley Development  
• Ideal First Time Buy or Buy-To-Let  
• Lounge  
• Breakfast Kitchen

£89,950



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Glastonbury Crescent, Walsall  
• No Upward Chain  
• Front & Rear Gardens  
• Lounge  
• Dining Room  
• Refitted Kitchen  
• Three Bedrooms

Offers in Excess of £85,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Chantry Avenue, Walsall  
• Three bedroom Semi-Detached  
• Ideal First-Time Purchase or Buy-To-Let  
• Off Road Parking  
• Lounge  
• Kitchen/Diner  
• First Floor Bathroom

£75,000

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**Alcester Drive Willenhall** **REDUCED**



- Semi Detached Residence in a cul de sac location
- UPVc Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating (where specified)
- Entrance Porch & Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: **£125,000**  
Viewing:

**Bay Avenue Bilston** **REDUCED**



- 4 Bedroom end terrace house
- Downstairs wc
- Kitchen
- EPC-C, Dining area

OFFERS AROUND: **£150,000**  
Viewing:

**Bentley Lane Willenhall** **NEW**



- 2 Bedroom ground floor apartment
- No upward chain
- Modern kitchen/diner
- Shower room

OFFERS AROUND: **£94,000**  
Viewing:

**Moseley Road Bilston**



- Traditional 3 bedroom detached house
- Entrance porch and hallway
- Dining room
- Lounge/diner

OFFERS AROUND: **£179,950**  
Viewing:

**Newbridge Crescent Wolverhampton**



- 4 Bedroom Detached House
- 2 Reception rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen
- EPC - D, Downstairs wc

OFFERS AROUND: **£325,000**  
Viewing:

**Rudge Close Willenhall** **NEW**



- 3 Bedroom terraced house
- Popular location
- Modern kitchen
- Lounge/diner

OFFERS AROUND: **£107,500**  
Viewing:

**Webb Street Bilston**



- Refurbished Semi Detached With further potential to Extended (subject to planning permission)
- No Upward Chain
- UPVc Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

OFFERS AROUND: **£109,950**  
Viewing:

**Brunel Court Bilston** **NEW**



- End Terrace Residence
- Double Glazed & Gas Central Heating
- Reception Hall
- EPC Rating D, Lounge

OFFERS AROUND: **£117,500**  
Viewing:

**Edinburgh Road Bilston**



- Semi Detached House
- Gas Central Heating
- No Upward Chain
- EPC Rating D, Entrance

OFFERS AROUND: **£85,000**  
Viewing:

**Biddlestone Grove Walsall** **REDUCED**



- Modern End Terrace with further potential for extensions (subject to planning permission)
- No Upward Chain
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

OFFERS AROUND: **£110,000**  
Viewing:

**Clary Grove Walsall**



- Mid Terrace Residence in a cul de sac location
- Double Glazing & Electric Heating
- Reception Hall
- EPC Rating D, Lounge

OFFERS AROUND: **£105,000**  
Viewing:

**Darwin Road Walsall**



- End Terrace Residence on a good size corner plot
- UPVc Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Reception Hall
- EPC Rating D, Lounge

OFFERS AROUND: **£74,950**  
Viewing:

**Drayton Street Walsall**



- A 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- No Upward Chain!
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- EPC Rating E, Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: **£100,000**  
Viewing:

**Gipsy Lane Willenhall**



- £69,950
- 2 Bedroom terraced house
- 2 Reception rooms
- Kitchen, EPC - D

OFFERS AROUND: **£69,950**  
Viewing:

**Woodstock Close Walsall**



- Spacious Mid Terrace Property
- Three Bedrooms & First Floor Shower Room
- Lounge Incorporating Dining Area
- EPC Rating: D, Modern Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND: **£110,000**  
Viewing:

**Broadmoor Close Bilston**



- 3 Bedroom detached house
- Immaculate condition
- Entrance porch and hallway
- Lounge/diner

OFFERS AROUND: **£135,000**  
Viewing:

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# Ticking all boxes for a city car

By Bill McCarthy

**RENAULT says the latest version of its city car evolved 'from a clean sheet of paper.'**

The French firm adds that this 'takes into account all the joys and stresses of living and driving in the cities it was primarily designed for.'

Cut through the advertising jargon and you can see what the company is getting at, with the new model seeming to tick all the boxes required of a city car runabout.

As for the clean sheet of paper, it is certainly different, having its engine in the rear, driving the rear wheels. This in turn means that the front wheel, unencumbered with drive shafts are capable of turning to 45 degrees, giving a turning circle like a black cab.

That is clearly a huge advantage with tight city parking spaces and sliding into gaps.

Like many cars in this segment, it has funky design, both inside and out, which can be further customised to suit owner requirements, has clean efficient engines and is fun to drive. Another innovation is the French firm's R & GO smart-phone connectivity system, which, thanks to the radio, a universal cradle and a free-to-download app, owners have access to a variety of navigation, telephone, multimedia and trip computer functions as well as internet radio and a host of other practical features.

There are four trim levels, Expression, Play, Dynamique and Dynamique S and two versions of the three cylinder one-litre petrol engine delivering different power outputs.

Nearly 70mpg is claimed on the 70bhp model with the 90bhp version tested here offering a bit more grunt, with a respectable 0-60mph acceleration time of 10.8 seconds.

Pretty decent performance while delivering a claimed, but optimistic, 65-odd mpg with stop/start technology. Carbon emissions are also under the magic 100g/km.

It does look eye-catching with the now familiar large Renault diamond logo dominating the narrow grille.

The boxy style is well-disguised by smart body kit, body coloured bumpers, concealed rear door handles, neat new headlights with round daytime running lights and striking alloy wheels on this tested model.

Inside, what appears to be a spartan interior is cleverly jazzed up with funky paintwork and dark plastic to dash and doors, steering wheel and gear shift and various surrounds. Hardly sumptuous, but certainly practical.

The dash itself is minimalist with one large central dial. Other controls and switches are handily placed.

In practical terms there are numerous cabin storage areas, three cupholders and a boot light.

## Space

To overcome fears over losing boot space with a rear-mounted power unit, Renault has positioned the engine at an angle of 49 degrees so that it does not intrude into the boot, and in a rear-end collision it is pushed beneath the passenger cell.

Boot space is always going to be meagre on this type of car and the Twingo capacity is 188 litres. This can be increased to 219 litres setting the rear seat-backs in a 'cargo' position at 90 degrees, while still safely carrying two passengers in the back.

With the standard on all models 50/50 split-folding rear seats lowered, the boot volume is increased to 980 litres.

Standard kit is good with the the Expression featuring, electric power steering, electric front windows, remote central locking, a speed limiter, a height-adjustable steering wheel, a trip computer and gearchange indicator, a lane-change function for the indicators and automatic activation of the rear screen wiper when reverse gear is selected.

The Play version adds a height-adjustable driver's seat and steering wheel and 15-inch black two-tone wheel trims.

Dynamique adds 15-inch alloy wheels, pinstripe shoulder-line decals, front foglamps, electric heated door mirrors, cruise control, a lane departure warning system, a leather-trimmed steering wheel and gearshift knob, white instrument backlighting, while Dynamique S TCe 90 adds the previously optional Sport Pack. This features an aluminium pedal set, red/black part leather upholstery and the red interior touch pack.

The safety equipment includes stability control, hill start, emergency braking, tyre pressure monitors and four airbags.

## TESTED

**Renault Twingo Dynamique ENERGY TCe 90 Stop & Start**

**Price:** £11,695

**Mechanical:** 90bhp, 898cc, 3cyl petrol engine driving rear wheels via 5-speed manual gearbox

**Max speed:** 103mph

**0-62mph:** 10.8 seconds

**Combined mpg:** 65.7

**Insurance:** 8

**CO2 emissions:** 99g/km

**BIK rating:** 12%

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# Princesses transported in economical comfort to a magical land

By Matt Joy

In month two of driving the Lexus NX300h, Matt Joy puts it through its paces with a cross-channel trip to Disneyland Paris.

We live in a world dominated by speed. How fast your broadband is, how quickly your food arrives at your table and perhaps worst of all; how fast your car is. Even as someone who should technically be a responsible adult, I still get caught up in the big rush.

The Lexus NX300h is, by conventional measures, quick enough for modern driving with a top speed of 112mph and 0-62mph in 9.2 seconds, but in the last month, I've discovered one of its best qualities is how it makes me drive with calm restraint.

This is in part due to the cabin. You climb slightly up into the driver's seat, instantly giving you that commanding driving position which is why you would buy one in the first place. But the NX goes a step further, with a dashboard stacked so it sits up high with you, as well as a clever nod to the exterior in its shape.

## Energy

Even the displays give you a gentle nudge in the right direction, if you wish. With the car in Sport mode there's a conventional rev counter illuminated in suitably racy red, but in Normal or Eco mode it instead indicates how efficiently you're driving. You can also bring up the energy flow meter between the dials or on the large screen, showing when the NX is running on petrol, electric or a combination. Competitive moron that I am, keeping it in EV mode for as long as possible becomes a game whilst remaining a good way of keeping emissions and consumption low.

Good consumption was on the priority list, however, for a family trek to Disneyland Paris. Normally I'd advocate a flight, but the NX had the right amount of room on board for two princesses (and me) and all the luggage that comes with that. There's also an argument that eight hours on motorways and autoroutes is still less stressful than 30 seconds in a UK airport in June.

And so it proved. Two four hour stints behind the wheel, even starting at 4.15am, were as easy as they could be on the driver thanks to the comfort on offer.

Better still, the radar-guided cruise control fitted to this luxury-spec model proved its worth yet again. Sure, you need to adapt your driving style slightly to keep things smooth, but do so and you're expending less effort than if you were taking full control yourself, and that pays off with less fatigue.

The excellent stereo system kept us entertained too, although I have yet to work out how to cancel the navigation announcements altogether; turning them down is fine, but the audio still pauses for an announcement that isn't there. My money is still on operator error, but if you will let Mickey Mouse behind the wheel...

## TESTED

Lexus NX 300h Luxury, from £34,495

**Engine:** 2.5-litre petrol engine and electric motors, together producing 192bhp

**Transmission:** E-CVT automatic driving all four wheels.

**Performance:** Top speed 112mph, 0-62mph in 9.2 seconds

**Economy:** 54.3mpg combined

**Emissions:** 121g/km of CO2



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# Bit of hot stuff from Kia

By James Parker

**Two sporty Chilli models have been added to the Kia Picanto range, which now features EU6-compliant engines. The Chilli variants are part of the Picanto Originals series, a rolling programme of high-specification, value-priced models changed at frequent intervals to offer buyers something out of the ordinary.**

Both of the new Chilli models are three-door cars powered by a 1.2-litre four-cylinder petrol engine developing 84bhp and 120Nm (89lb ft) of torque.

They offer buyers the option of a five-speed manual gearbox or a four-speed automatic which will be particularly attractive to those who do most of their driving in congested towns and cities.



In line with all Picanto Originals, the Chilli models offer a high specification for a mid-range price, sitting above the SR7 grade in the line-up.

The manual costs £11,495 on the road, while the automatic is £12,095, both are on sale from July 1, 2015. They sit above the SR7 models in the Picanto line-up.

As the name implies, the Chilli variants are particularly sporty and spicy in appearance while retaining a proven powertrain that brings inexpensive, no-nonsense running costs.

## Stylish

The already sharp looks of the three-door Picanto have been enhanced by stylish new front and rear bumpers and a twin exhaust tailpipe.

There are also additional side sill mouldings painted to match the body colour. The Chilli models are finished in red, black or white paintwork.

Sporty-looking five-barrel 15-inch alloy wheels shod with 175/50 tyres are the final finishing touch.

This is complemented by the equally sporty interior. The seats are in black faux leather with striking red and grey cloth cushions and backrests to match the inserts on the doors.

There are aluminium pedals with non-slip rubber pads, while the centre fascia, steering wheel bezel and gearshifter top are finished in classy Gloss Black.

The Chilli versions are the first Picantos to be fitted with satellite navigation including European mapping, similar to the system found in Kia's Rio and Venga ranges. This is linked to a seven-inch touchscreen and includes a reversing camera.



**'As the name implies, the Chilli variants are particularly sporty and spicy in appearance, while retaining a proven powertrain.'**

A six-speaker audio system is also standard.

The Picanto now features EU6-compliant powertrains in eight models, with the remainder due to be converted a little later in the year. The 1.0-litre, three-cylinder Picanto 1, SR7 and 2 variants – three- and five-door – now meet the latest emissions standard, as do the two 1.2-litre, four-cylinder Chilli models. The 1.0-litre Kappa EU6 engine develops 65bhp and 95Nm (70lb ft) of torque and has fuel economy of 62.8mpg with CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 105g/km.

It is available only as a five-speed manual. The 1.2, also from the Kappa family, develops 84bhp and 120Nm (89lb ft) and has economy and emissions figures of 61.4mpg and 106g/km with the five-speed manual gearbox, or 50.4mpg and 130g/km with the four-speed automatic.

As with every Kia, the Picanto range comes with a unique-in-the-UK seven-year or 100,000-mile warranty, subject to certain wear and tear conditions. It is fully transferable should the car be sold before the time or mileage limits have been reached.

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Participating Retailers only. Model featured Astra Excite 1.4i 100PS 5dr in Power Red from £17,920 on the road. Offer price £12,595. Offer available on orders or registrations from 2 July to 7 October 2015, subject to availability. Offer available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 units (purchase only, excluding B2B). All other sales categories are excluded. cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. UK-supplied vehicles only. #Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. Offer applies to pre model year 2016 vehicles only. See Retailer for further details. Correct at time of going to press.



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Here for you, whenever you need us, 24 hours a day.

**Turn To Us For Help and Support**

In your time of need we'll take care of all the funeral arrangements.

- Est. 1907
- 24 hour service

**G. Gibbs**  
Funeral Directors

44 All Saints Way  
West Bromwich B71 1PZ  
**0121 553 0442**

Dignity

Part of Dignity plc. A British Company.

**1**  
**Family**

**elderly & disabled**

**COLT TWIN** Mobility scooter, under warranty, used twice, range 15.5 mls, o/w cover, chargers. Bargain £300 ono. 01543 424076/ 07917 275088.

**INVACARE LEO MOBILITY SCOOTER**, 3 years old, only used for four months due to ill health, excellent condition, recently serviced ready for sale, £650. 01889 584667.

**TWO ELECTRICAL** controlled multi positioned chairs. £500 each, will sell separately. 01922 403219.

**WREKIN STAIRLIFTS** reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617

**2**  
**Leisure Time**

**JACKSON-HATELEY CYCLES**  
www.jacksonhateleycycles.co.uk

Massive summer clearance sale across the range. Up to £150 off some models.

You beat our price we beat yours!  
Book Your Cycle For Summer Now At Sale Price!

Spare At Discount Prices  
**24 HOUR REPAIR SERVICE**

**HATELEY'S**  
Simply the best  
Ring Dave on  
**01902 782344**  
458 Stafford Road, Oxley, Wolverhampton

**boats & water sports**

**SAILING BOAT.** A truly classic and beautiful boat on a twin axle trailer. Everything you need to go off sailing. £2,995 ono. 07815 549795.

**car boot sales**

**SATURDAY BOOT SALE**  
4454 Rudge Heath near Wolverhampton, Bridgnorth WVG 7EE  
Super Sunday Boot Sale, A34, Brocton, Between Cannock & Stafford. ST17 0SG.  
Now only £5  
Wednesday & Saturday Bootsale,  
Barracks Lane, Muckley Corner, Lichfield WS9 9DL.  
**07890 267041**  
www.bestbootsales.com

**CAR BOOT SALES!**  
Every Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday  
Every Sunday  
Muckley Corner, Hall Lanes, Lichfield, WS14 0BE  
**Booters £3.50**  
6.00am-2pm  
Meat Van Required  
**07538 842842**

**ROSEDALE RESCUE**  
1, Radley Road, Rushall, WS4 1LN.  
Are holding a bric-a-brac car boot every weekend, weather permitting from 11.30am onwards, Saturdays and Sundays.  
Refreshments available for all dog walkers/volunteers. Cakes/Pastries on sale also.

**caravans / motorhomes**

**CARAVAN FOR SALE** Hobourne Devon TQ4 7JP, 3 bedroom holiday home on picturesque park. Fantastic views & facilities. Competitive site fees, central location in Paignton. First to see will buy. £10,595. Please call 01803 696276

**CARAVANS & CHALETs** For sale with sea views. Clarch Bay near Aberystwyth from £4995 includes 2015 site fees. Call Phil on: 01970 820579. sales@clarchbay.com

**CHEAP STATIC CARAVAN FOR SALE** on Presthaven Sands in North Wales £14,995 10 & half month season call Joe on 07837 499660

**COMPASS RALLEY**  
1999, 2 berth, 16ft, shower/toilet, full cooker, B.A heating, flyscreens/blinds, awning. Including lots extra's. Excellent condition.  
**£2,150 ono.**  
**07845 845 556.**

**ELDDIS AURORA**  
4 berth, fixed bed, 2001, 18ft, blinds, cooker, fridge, shower, remote mover, awning. Extra's. Good condition.  
**£4,200 ono.**  
**07815 634 828.**

**MERCEDES CAMPER VAN**  
1999, 39K miles, professional conversion 2013, electric step, on-board water, toilet, all usual refinements, long MOT.  
Immaculate condition, must be seen.  
**£16,700. o.n.o.**  
Telephone 07812 812 817.

**PEUGEOT SYMPHONY 2 BERTH CAMPERVAN**  
1998, 22,000 miles, petrol, shower, toilet, fridge, cooker, bike rack, windscreens cover, awning. Winter storage cover. Immaculate condition.  
Fully equipped, 12 months MOT.  
**£12,500.**  
Telephone 01922 721643.

**WILLERBY GAINSBOROUGH STATIC CARAVAN**  
6-berth, 4 miles from Aberystwyth, quiet site, fees paid for 2015.  
**£6,000.**  
**0121 550 0888 / 0770 511183**

**music shop**

**SPLINTER STUDIOS** FREE Guitar and Drum tuition, 18th July, limited spaces - Call 07969 908342.

**TYROS YAMAHA** keyboard, in mint condition for sale.  
Call: 07946 383970

**sports & leisure**

**Free Ads**  
IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY  
For items up to £250.  
Online at  
www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

**holidays**

**holiday homes**

**HOLIDAY HOMES FOR SALE**  
Hobourne Devon Bay, massive summer savings, pitch fees inc, picturesque family holiday park Paignton prices from £10,995 to arrange appointment contact 01803 696276

**self catering holidays**

**BURNHAM-ON-SEA**  
Self Catering Holiday Apartments  
Disabled Facilities  
Pet Friendly  
**01278 794111**  
www.GoSomerset.co.uk

**mind, body & soul**

**clairvoyance**

**PSYCHIC TAROT READINGS** Live 1 to 1. 0906 757 0900 75p per min, calls recorded. Credit/Debit card 0141 427 7003 (£25 - 30 mins)

**what's on**

**antique fairs**

**ANTIQUE & COLLECTORS FAIR**  
very month, Codsall Village Hall Sunday 26th July 9.30am-3pm. Call Brian: 07923 538178.

**household appliances**

**COOPERS 28 LITRE** Mini kitchen cooker with two hot plates on top £40 plus attachments.  
01922 682774

**household appliances**

**MARKS AND SPENCERS**  
2 X 2 SEATER SOFAS  
good condition.  
**£200 each.**  
**07964 460217.**

**in your garden**

**A LANDSCAPING & GARDEN SERVICE**  
Fencing supplied & fitted. Jungles cleared & restored. Garden tidy-ups. New lawns laid. Paving, Hedge Cutting, regular Garden Maintenance. Free estimates.  
**01902 683607 or 07939 634708**

**collectables & memorabilia**

**MAMOD LIVE** Steam engine complete with trailer. £100. Cannock 01543 462271.

**furniture**

**ROYAL ALBERT OLD COUNTRY ROSES (English)**  
Dinner, tea, coffee sets and various others.  
Excellent condition.  
Details call 01902 850790. Brewood.

**STOCK CLEARANCE SALE OF BEDS & FURNITURE**

Single beds from £99  
Double beds from £179  
Kingsize beds from £199  
Headboards from £15  
Bedside chest from £29

**STAR PLAN FURNITURE**  
Javelin Park,  
Black Country New Rd,  
Wedsbury,  
WS10 7ND  
**0121 5064290**

**SHEDS AND FENCING AT KNC.**  
See our new showroom at Willen-hall Rd, WV11 3DZ. 01902 450137.

**SLABS 450mm x 450mm** River faced, only £1.68 inc. VAT. Ranton Building Supplies: 01543 276006.

**HOUSE CLEARANCE**  
Two seater sofa and two chairs in terracotta. £225.  
Two matching lounge chairs in terracotta. £150.  
Electric cooker. £30.  
Fridge. £25.  
Three television tables. £25 each.  
Two chrome/cream kitchen stools. £70 the two.  
Dining table with four chairs and sideboard. £45.  
Curtains, blinds and garden equipment also available.  
Call Ian 07958 120829.

**CONSERVATORY SUITE**  
As new, beige blue, 2 extra cushions, moving house, bargain.  
**£425 ono.**  
**01785 748661.**

**DOUBLE DIVAN BED**  
Deep base and deep luxury sprung mattress.  
Brand new in wrapper.  
Can deliver  
**£99**  
**07972 525078**

**antiques**

**ANTIQUES WANTED**  
All Furniture, Clocks, China, Medals, Coins, Paintings, Gold & Silver Jewellery  
**HOUSE CLEARANCE SERVICE**  
**CHASE ANTIQUES**  
(Over 35 years Trading)  
**01543 572367 07831 818024**

**items wanted**

**ALL GOLD 9ct £300 per ounce**  
**CASH PAID TODAY**  
A GENUINE LADY BUYER  
All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester Moorcroft • Lladro • Old coins  
• Watches • Costume Jewellery • Old toys  
• Clocks • Paintings • All silver  
• Chinese items • Old ivory  
• Military items  
Pre-47 silver coins All war medals etc  
**ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING**  
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

**aerials**

**A1 RAPID AERIALS** Plasma fitting. Sky repairs, same day service, free call out. 3 yr g'tee, oap discounts 07960 173589 or 0800 633 5899.

**AA DIGITAL AERIALS**  
1 aerial into 2 rooms £90  
1 aerial into 4 rooms £130  
Work Guaranteed  
Same Day Service  
**01902 858191**  
**01384 429166**  
VISA 01543 439095  
MasterCard 01922 716029  
07833 738857

**household appliances**

**COOPERS 28 LITRE** Mini kitchen cooker with two hot plates on top £40 plus attachments.  
01922 682774

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**A LANDSCAPING & GARDEN SERVICE**  
Fencing supplied & fitted. Jungles cleared & restored. Garden tidy-ups. New lawns laid. Paving, Hedge Cutting, regular Garden Maintenance. Free estimates.  
**01902 683607 or 07939 634708**

**'A BARGAIN'**  
A beautiful lush green lawn turf, cut fresh in easy to lay rolls.  
**£1.50 per roll.**  
Prompt deliveries daily.  
**TRENT VALLEY TURF**  
**01902 738217**

**AT C B SHEDS & FENCING** We supply/fit. Free quotes. Supply sleepers & decking 01922 702070.

**JAPANESE KOI** from £10 to £750. Central Koi Telford, Wyvevale Garden Centre. 01952 604499

**RIDE ON MOWER** Countax C300H Hydrostatic Powered brush collector, single pedal control 30inch cut. £550 ono 01543 684370.

**SAND, TOPSOIL, DECORATIVE** gravels 11 Tonne direct loads at cheap rates. D. Gill Building & Garden Supplies 01922 452221/ 452266 7 days

**items for sale**

**CANNOCK EXCHANGE**  
We buy & sell quality used goods: Car audio, Air Rifes, TVs & Laptops, Bikes, Gold, Guitars & Amps, Group/Disco Gear etc. Try us! No Furniture.  
186 Stafford Rd, Cannock, WS11 4AH  
Open Tues to Sat 10am-6pm  
01543 570990 Closed Sun & Mon

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**ASH RECLAMATION** new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222.

**CHEAP INDIAN SANDSTONE** paving from £15.50 per square metre including vat. Choice of colours. Ranton Building Supplies LTD 01543 276006

**Free Ads**  
IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY  
\*Advertise any item FREE up to the value of £250 go to:  
www.expressandstar.com/bookanad  
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**antiques**

**ANTIQUES WANTED**  
All Furniture, Clocks, China, Medals, Coins, Paintings, Gold & Silver Jewellery  
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**CHASE ANTIQUES**  
(Over 35 years Trading)  
**01543 572367 07831 818024**

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• Chinese items • Old ivory  
• Military items  
Pre-47 silver coins All war medals etc  
**ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING**  
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**aerials**

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**01902 858191**  
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**carpentry & joinery**

**B & S JOINERY** Six internal pre-painted doors fully fitted from £350. 07958 552625, 07950 867972.

**carpet & upholstery cleaning**

**A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**  
OAP discount. Recession Prices. Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10  
Call Paul 07870 341089

**carpet fitters**

**A CARPETS & VINYLs** supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small, free quotes call Mark 01543 820598/07941 619694.

**cctv**

**RAPID SECURITY** CCTV & alarms cameras, supplied and fitted, doors, replacement units 01785 472021 centralwindowstld.co.uk

**conservatories**

**ENERGY SEAL** Conservatories Ltd. Orangeries, porches, doors & windows. Fully fitted/ supply only. Showroom open 9-4 mon-sat 01902 866000 all areas covered.

**double glazing**

**CENTRAL WINDOWS** Ltd windows, doors, replacement units 01785 472021 centralwindowstld.co.uk

**double glazing repairs**

**UPVC BACK DOORS** from £299, front doors from £389 fitted. Windows/Fascias, 01922 442720.

**driveways & patios**

**CONCRETE CREATIONS**  
Pattern imprinted concrete specialists, driveways/patios. Free quotes.  
**01902 834162, 07703 023280**

**DIAMOND DRIVES LTD**  
Block Paving - Patios - Graveling - Tarmacadam - Tar & Chip - Landscaping  
**01902 475056/ 0800 7273852**  
www.diamonddrivesltd.co.uk

**electrical services**

**ALL ELECTRICAL** work from a switch to a rewire. Insured, free quote 01902 575570/ 07958 627434.

**external rendering**

**MB ELECTRIC.CO.UK** Home re-wiring from £800. NICEIC. High quality local service call free phone 0800 211 8398 / 07939 503095

**fencing**

**PORTWAY FENCING**  
\*SPECIAL OFFER\*  
10 Days of quality fencing concrete posts, gravel boards & heavy duty panels supplied and fitted for **£695.00**  
www.portwayfencing.com  
83 Portway Rd, Wednesbury, WS10 7QZ  
Office: 0121 531 5250  
Mobile: 07866 137656

**CUNNINGHAM FENCING SUPPLIES** Concrete posts, gravel boards & panels. 01543 275229



## gas fitting

### GAS SERVICES

- Boilers
- Cookers
- Fires
- Gas Checks
- Landlord Certificates
- Gas Leaks Traced

Fitted, Serviced and Repaired Same Day Service  
Free Quotes  
**DISCOUNTS FOR OAPs**  
Call: 01902 366855/  
07761 973975

## gates

ALL GATES, RAILINGS, etc. Free quotes, also repairs & fitting. 07903 500642 24 hours.  
**DARLSTON FABS** 30 years experience in supplying gates and railings. Call: 07587 488290

## guttering

### PROPERTY SOLUTIONS

A1 GUTTERING  
cleaned, repaired, replaced, fascia/soffits, UPVC washdowns, all roofing/repointing work. Free quotes, 8am-6pm  
01902 722447

## handyman services

**DAVIES INSTALLATIONS** All aspects of building work, plumbing, roofing, decking, kitchen and bathroom fitting. Call 07793 747829

## house clearances

### HARVEY'S HOUSE / SHOP CLEARANCES

Cash waiting, Any size  
Quick, discreet  
and professional service  
Call: 07939 421862 / 01902 410433

## A1 HOUSE CLEARANCE

Full, part and single rubbish removed.  
Garage and sheds cleared.  
Ercol and Teak furniture wanted  
Call now on:  
01922 492007

**A ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid for house clearances and bereavement. Also removals undertaken. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327  
**DJ HOUSE CLEARANCES.** Affordable rates, reliable, discreet. Call 01902 652346 or 0712 990177  
**YMCA REQUIRE FURNITURE** Free Collection. Call: 01922 629562, 01384 231714, 01902 715249.

## kitchen fitters

**THE KITCHEN FITTER** Over 15 years experience. Call 07851 654757 or 01543 732333.

## painters / decorators

**ADMJ Decorating & Maintenance.** City and Guilds. No Job Too Small. 07855 957935 - 01902 630028  
**C I PAINTING & DECORATING** Over 30 yrs experience. City & Guilds approved. Free Quotes. 01902 653578 / 07890 879 892.  
**C&D DECORATING** Coving/ dado/ laminated flooring. Free quotes/ OAP discount. 07973 286288  
**HIGHFELL DECORATORS** 30 years experience. All aspects of decorating. Call: 07791 2261129  
**MFR DECORATORS.** Internal/external. No job too small. Sensible prices. Free quotes. 07837 826372.

## plans prepared

**ADAM DESIGN.** Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com  
**BUILDING Plans:** Prepared/ submitted. K J Bradley 01902 373248 07792 165767. www.plans4u.co.uk

## plastering

**MINT PLASTERING**  
For the very best in plastering and rendering, full rooms inc materials from 110. Halls, stairs and landings from 200  
28 years experience.  
Free quotes. All work guaranteed  
01922 606503 / 07519 694516

## plumbers

**PLUMBING & PROPERTY** maintenance work undertaken. No job too small. Call Neil 07469 609079

## plumbing & heating

**A RELIABLE PLUMBER** no job too small, no call out fee. Call Lee: 07713 149278 / 01902 330351.

**AA Heating & Plumbing.** Install/ Service/ Repair all gas work. Kitchen/ Bathrooms: 01922 660410

**PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN** No job too small or large. Call Will for a quote on: 07521 431106.

## reclaimed materials

**CUNNINGHAM RECLAMATION** Buyers & sellers of reclaimed & new building materials. 01543 275299

## removals

### A & M CHEAP REMOVALS

Local Careful Firm  
Full or Part loads  
Call Don:  
07749 941319

**A MAN WITH A VAN** Single items, flat/ house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 2999 or 07815 043724

**A2B REMOVALS** Cheap and reliable removal service. Insured. 07817 842980 or 01902 744829.

**ALL REMOVALS** We beat any quote, full or part loads, all areas. Call Keith on 07867 862227

**CALL DEAN!** Business/Domestic, Deliveries/Relocation/full house 1 item 07428 453209 / 01902 830870 01384 940260 / 01922 263460

**CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN.** Removals, clearances. Items large or small. Call: 01902 741546 or 07899 635852.

**DJ REMOVALS** house or one item. Affordable rates, reliable. Call: 01902 652346 or 07812 980177.

## roofing

### CLIFF NICHOLLS

Roofing & Scaffold  
Rubber Roofing  
All Roofing and Scaffolding Work carried out  
35 years experience  
Freephone  
(0800) 220 - 729

**MG ROOFING** Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

## rubbish removal

**ALL RUBBISH REMOVED** We load, no skips. House, garden or commercial. Call 01902 827599 or 07757 558708

## skip hire

### A absolute affordable skip RUSSELL SKIPS

Mini, midi skips  
Prompt delivery / collection  
(0121) 520 3388 / 07721 387990

### WOLVERHAMPTON SKIP HIRE

MINI, MIDI & BUILDERS SKIPS WITH DOORS  
Established 26 years  
Call:  
01902 722876

### BLITZ SKIPS

AFFORDABLE SKIPS  
2-50 YARD SKIPS AVAILABLE  
PUNJABI SPEAKERS  
MONDAY-SATURDAY  
7AM-6PM  
01902 870370  
0121 517 1111

## Waste management



Recycling services  
01902 459667  
0121 558 2120  
01543 500 599

### QUICKA SKIPS

Mini, Midi, 6 Yard with doors and Builders.  
7 days - Prompt Service  
01902 404800 / 07983 580884  
www.quickaskips.co.uk

**AAA SKIP HIRE** All sizes available, competitive prices. Call Now: 01922 711411 or 07831 105695

### GOLDSHILL SKIPS

Bring your own waste cheaper than skips. General, Green, Wood waste any size vehicle. Phone for prices:  
0121 557 3346

**COX GRAB HIRE!** 1 load = 3 skips, £160 per load. Call 07754 111411 www.coxgrabhire.co.uk

**GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD.** Mini, midi, maxi, large skips. Fast, friendly & reliable service. Monday to Saturday, 6 day service. Call 0121 555 6060.

## tiling

**ALL TYPES OF TILING** Kmdean & wet rooms supplied/fitted, fully insured. 07768 814501.

## tree services

**BUDGET TREE SURGERY** Tall or small trees, hedge & conifer trimming, garden tidy up's. Call Adam 07936 882552 / 0121 5053558.

## upholstery

### MR B'S UPHOLSTERY

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## 4 Pets & Animals

## equestrian corner

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## guns & dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS** Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

## pets corner

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FOR DOGS AND CATS  
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**NOTICE TO READERS** Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:  
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.  
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.  
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

**GIANT FRENCH LOP** baby rabbits, ready soon. £30. 07805 727471. 01543 360943.

## vets

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THIS SPACE COULD BE PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS

Every day our customers get a great response from Classified Advertising.

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## 5 Business & Farming

## business opportunities

**READERS** are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

## business directory

## businesses for sale

**CONV' STORE** Wolverhampton Takings £8000 pwk. OIRO £48,000 Plus SAV. Call John 01902 766724.

## commercial premises

**VARIOUS UNITS TO LET.** Good rates. Brierty Hill Town Centre.  
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## 7 Jobs

## building & construction

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**BRICKLAYERS AND** **WOOD CARRIERS REQUIRED** Call or Text 07971 206417  
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Walsall  
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**EXCELLENT RATES OF PAY**  
**MUST BE ABLE TO START A.S.A.P.**

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For a job description and to apply for this role, please visit  
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whose responsibilities also encompass our well regarded Transport operations.

The successful candidate will have an experienced and qualified background, either in mechanical, electrical or transport engineering, have good planning and organisation skills, an ability to communicate with people inside and outside the company, with attention to detail, drive and tenacity to achieve accurate results and targets  
There is very little travel involved, this is a new and important position, which will receive generous remuneration, commensurate with these opportunities and responsibilities.  
Apply in the first instance by emailing your CV to admin@bseaton.co.uk

## sports clubs



## GOALKEEPER WANTED UNDER 15

(NEXT SEASON)  
Sedgley White Lions Under 15 (next season) are looking for an experienced goalkeeper.

If interested please contact  
Jamie Day on  
07814 592659

## TIPTON TOWN UNDER 11'S 2015/16 CURRENTLY HOLDING TRIALS

We are looking for committed players who are interested in progressing with an already successful team, that play high tempo passing football. So if you are going into school year 5 or 6 from September and feel you have the ability and enjoy the challenge.

Call Wayne on 07747 113340. Tipton Town FC holds FA Charter Accreditation.

All team managers are FA qualified and are CRB checked.

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Players of any ability in current years 1 to year 8 required.

Contact Keith 07836 202764.

## general

**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

## 9 Local Information

## public & legal notices

**LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES** For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to  
Marie Hogg on 01902 731346  
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

**EXPERIENCED STITCHER SETTER OPERATOR/ GUILLOTINE OPERATOR** required for commercial printing company based in the West Midlands. Good package to the right applicant.  
Apply in writing to Mr Gary Cooper Snr; WM Print Limited, 45-47 Frederick Street, Walsall WS2 9NE

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## nursing & carers

**CARE HOME MANAGER** Required for a care home in Walsall. Good rates of pay, DBS checks essential please Contact Eric 01922 645354

## 10 Personals

## personal

**CHAMELEONS** for like minded adults - singles / couples. 7 days a week. 9am - late. Mon Biseual day 2 mins from J9 / J10 M6. 0121 5686117. www.chameleons.co.uk

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Must love Blackpool and Champagne.  
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01922 635844


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Submit a letter requesting your desires. I will reply if I'm not already tied up.  
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**15/08/27/AD** The Royal Bank of Scotland, Installation of internally illuminated surround to replacement atm, 200 High Street, Walsall, WS3 3AY  
**15/08/27/FL** Accord Housing, Proposed addition of external wall insulation, rear wall - white finish, 41 EMERY STREET, WALSALL, WS1 3AJ  
**15/08/30/FL** Walsall Council, Repairs to the bell-cote; repairs to the gables; repairs to the bellify louvers; repairs to the balcony; renewal of bell; works to vision slots; re-pointing work to brickwork; re-roofing pitched roofs with insulation between rafters; remove brick chimney to rear of the elevation of the bell tower. Whitehall Infant School, West Bromwich Road, Walsall, WS1 3HS  
**15/08/35/FL** Mr Burhan Kartal, Single storey side extension, new shop front and demolition of front wall, 11 Norton Road, Walsall, WS3 4AY  
**15/09/26/COUN** Tandem Metallurgical (Midlands) Ltd. Change of use to metal recycling facility, including recladding of existing building, installation of weighbridge, erection of boundary walls and planting of the canal towpath. FORMER WERNICKS HIRE SITE, APEX ROAD, WALSALL, WS8 7EP

**Walsall Council, Planning and Building Control**  
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) act 1990 Development Management Procedure Order 2010 (as amended)  
The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning. Representations can be made online, email: planning@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice.  
**Please note:** Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.  
**15/08/28/FL** The Royal Bank of Scotland, Installation of replacement atm, surround, servicing room and new security door to front elevation. 200 High Street, Walsall, WS3 3LA  
**15/08/27/AD** The Royal Bank of Scotland, Installation of internally illuminated surround to replacement atm, 200 High Street, Walsall, WS3 3AY  
**15/08/27/FL** Accord Housing, Proposed addition of external wall insulation, rear wall - white finish, 41 EMERY STREET, WALSALL, WS1 3AJ  
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6

Property

accommodation to let

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19

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Rooms from £50pw

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**WEDNESFIELD 2 BED FIRST FLOOR FLAT**

Private entrance, off road parking, communal garden, 50% share option also available @ £24,000.

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properties wanted

**PICK UP the phone CALL NOW**

Best Price Sam

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**NOTICE TO READERS** It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**HEDNESFORD** superior furnished shared house, near bus/train links, no smokers. 01543 422996.

**ONE BEDROOM** flat in Digton, DG CH, own parking space, lovely rear garden, £350pcm. 07943 136943.

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overseas property

**NOTICE TO READERS** Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

8

Motoring

cars over £1500

**AUDI A4** 2.0 TDI estate, automatic, 55 reg, full service, excellent condition, lady owner, £3,000 ono.

**07490 087525 or 01902 851220.**

**FORD FIESTA**, 2003, 82,642 miles, red, air bag, long MoT, central locking, pas, sunroof, CD, towbar, £1,600.50 ono. 07974 490460.

**FORD FIESTA** 2008, 78,000 miles, silver, electric windows, air bag, air con, fish, alarm, MoT, metallic paint, central locking, alloys, CD, spots. £2,300. 01902 636836.

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01902 317878

ClassifiedAds

**LAND ROVER DISCOVERY** TDI 2495 DIESEL

Meticulously maintained by one owner.

Low mileage.

New MoT. 1994.

Original condition.

**£1,995**

**01922 479994 or 01922 479994.**

**SEAT IBIZA COPA** 2011, 26,480 Miles, WHITE, 1.4 pet, long MoT, fish, elec win/mirr, air con, cruise control, must see! £1,150 0778954848

**SUZUKI SWIFT** Five door, petrol, manual, 61 plate, dark grey, air conditioned, low tax band, 7,000 miles, good condition **£6,250.** 07708 029969.

**TOYOTA RAV4 XT3**, 56 reg, 65k miles, full Toyota service history, black petrol, manual, MoT till Sept, fitted with style pack, £4,000. 07886 041780.

**VAUXHALL MERIVA** Turbo Diesel Automatic 2011, 61,000 miles, silver, long MoT history, £4,350. o.n.o. 01785 712747.

**VW GOLF 1.6 MATCH** Petrol, manual, 5Dr, 2003/53 plate, metallic silver, 63,700 miles, MoT, excellent condition. **£2,000 o.n.o.** 07976 438909.

cars under £1500

BMA

Ext. Here 25 Years

A WIDE RANGE OF CARS UNDER £1,000

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[www.bma-motors.co.uk](http://www.bma-motors.co.uk)

**ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED** that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

**CITROEN XSARA PICASSO**, 1.8, 16V, petrol, May 2002, 1 owner from new, fsh, MoT June 2016, 78,800 miles, **£1,250.** 01785 212140. (close to J13 M6)

**CLASSIC ROVER** 216 Convertible 1996, MoT May, 2600 overhall, 84,750 miles, part ex considered or no reasonable offer refused. **£995.** 01922 684503.

**FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCI** 2004, blue, recently serviced, MoT, 72,000 miles. **£1,295 ono.** Contact Kevin on 07957 236217.

**FORD FOCUS**, 2000, 138,145 miles, green, electric windows, air bag, long MoT, auto, central locking, pas, towbar, £350 ono. 07974 490460.

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**01902 489 500**

**YellowSpringbok.co.uk**





**FORD MONDEO GHIA TDCI**, 2.0, 56 reg, electrics, new MoT, A/C, stereo, alarm, central locking. Service history. 1 owner from new. Immaculate. £900 ono. 07547 132 213.

**JAGUAR XTYPE** 02/03, 2.0 petrol, 96,500 miles, MoT Dec, alarm, immobiliser, alloys, Jag emblem on bonnet, £1,450. 01922 410974.

**MG TF** two seater convertible, 52 reg, silver, good runner, good tyres, no MoT. £500. SOLD

**PEUGEOT 206 HDi** hatch, diesel, 55 reg, 11 months MoT, SH, EW, CL, computer dash, 69k miles. Any trial, £1,000. 0121 500 6047, West Brom

**PEUGEOT 206CC** 1.6, 04 plate, electric blue, 52k, EW, CL, PAS, CD, electric roof, full black leather seats, new exhaust, 3 previous owners, alloys, immaculate condition, many new parts. £995. 07885 276479.

**PEUGEOT 206 ZEST** 3 door, 2004, 1124cc, MoT Feb 2016, PS, EW, very good condition, 5255, 07970 801560. Wednesbury.

**RENAULT CLIO** 1149cc, gold metallic, 16V sport, fully MoT'd, £1,300 ono. 07706 015559.

**RENAULT MEGANE** 2004, blue, 80,000 miles, 10 mins MoT. £1,000 ono. 07908 929489.

**RENAULT MEGANE CABRIOLET**, 2002/52, MoT to March, new parts, serviced, health reason forces sale, £300. 07714 309478.

**RENAULT SCENIC** DYNAMANIQUE, 16V MPV diesel, very clean and reliable, some service history, MoT November, 123,000 miles, black, no mechanical issues. £795. 07786 05469.

**SUZUKI ALTO** 2006, 94,550 miles, 1.0 L GL, red MoT July 2016, £700. 530, new tyres, very reliable £700 ono. 07508 265248.

**VAUXHALL CORSA** 1.2, 03, 4 door, alloys, long MoT, cheap tax. Very clean and tidy. Lady owner. Drives well. £1,075 ono. 07956 517744.

**VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN** 2004 (53), silver, 5dr, 12 months MoT, 71,410 miles, excellent condition. £1,295 ono. 07984 207513.

## classic cars

**MERCEDES 1.8 190E** 1992, 122,000 miles, silver, electric windows, long MoT, auto, metallic paint, central locking, pas, sunroof. £1,250 ono. 07717 208663.

## commercial vehicles

**VAUXHALL COMBO VAN** 2004, 1.7, 51,000 miles, white, side loading door, full MoT, very good condition. £2,350 ono. 01543 506593. Cannock.

## driving tuition

**Home's** Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, Punto, 207, KA, Fiat 500, Yaris. 10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50! 2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered. MALE & FEMALE INSTRUCTORS. MANUAL & AUTOMATIC. AD/PTD REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available. 07970 200066 / 01922 780250 01562 870050 / 01384 234954 01543 660120 / 0121 564 0090 01902 580065 www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

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## motorbikes

**CHASE MOTORCYCLE TRAINING**  
■ CBT to Direct Access  
■ P/T Instructors Always Required  
**CALL US NOW 0845 757 3402**  
www.chasemotorcycletraining.co.uk

**A BRITISH BIKE WANTED** for restoration by retired gent. Triumph/BSA/Norton. Any condition. Cash paid. 01543 422327.

**MOTOR SCOOTER** 50cc, 2013, 800 miles, full MoT, one owner, screen / back box. £450. 07541 147500.

**NFL MOTORCYCLE TRAINING** CBT to full licence. Call Sam - 9pm for deals 01902 494422.

**PEUGEOT TWEET** 125, 62 reg, black, 5,300 miles approx, very good condition. FSH, one mature owner. £1,200. 01785 619427.

## scrap vehicles

**OUR ADVERTISERS** are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

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Scrap it legally. No fines, NO comebacks. All scrap cars/vans wanted. **FREE PRICES!**  
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## Harriers hold their ground with draw against Blues

### Harriers' Blues1

ASSISTANT boss Mark Creighton was impressed by the way Kidderminster Harriers stepped up their preparations for the new season with a well-deserved draw against Birmingham City at Aggborough.

Blues used the friendly to field a different side in each half, but were still unable to tame Harriers, who produced an encouraging display in their build up to their National League campaign which opens with a tough home clash against Grimsby Town on August 8.

"I think we frustrated two really good Birmingham sides," said Creighton, whose team went ahead on 68 minutes through tri-  
alist Adam Dawson.

Gary Rowett's Blues equalised seven minutes from time when Shane Lowry powered home a header following a free-kick by Stephen Gleeson.

Creighton said: "It's a great credit to our boys that they didn't look like they were lacking any fitness. That tells us we have done the right things fitnesswise."

Harriers: Snedeker; Hodgkiss, Langmead (Tunncliffe, 76), Rowe-Turner, Taylor (Kelly, 46); Verma, Clarke, Reffell (Green, 46), Dawson (Jones, 80); Reid (Sweeney, 66), Styche (Singh, 76). Subs not used: Hales, Bunn.

Blues (first-half): Legzdins, Eardley, Grounds, Spector, Robinson, Davis, Brown, Cotterill, Shinnie, Novak, Gray. Blues (second-half): Kuszczak, Caddis, Lowry, Morrison, Hancox, Gleeson, Griffiths, Arthur, Thomas, Maghoma, Donaldson. Subs not used: Trueman, O'Neill, Harding, Cooper.

## Lalkovic vow as he signs for Saddlers

MILAN LALKOVIC has vowed to pick up where he left off after re-joining Walsall.

The 22-year-old Slovakian became Dean Smith's third signing of the summer when he agreed a one-year deal with the Saddlers.

Lalkovic became a firm favourite with the fans when he spent the 2013/14 season at the Banks's on loan from Chelsea and came close to joining permanently 12 months ago following his release from Stamford Bridge.

Now, after a frustrating year which included fruitless spells in the Czech Republic with Mlada Boleslav and then back in League One with Barnsley, he is eager to make up for lost time.

"I just want to kick on again from where I left," he said. "I'm not really thinking I was away. I want to do better and be more consistent."

"I can be a different player if I do that."

"Last season I didn't have the best but that is gone."

## Amavi aims to make an impact at Villa

NEW boy Jordan Amavi has expressed his desire to become a fans' favourite at Villa – as Christian Benteke's exit looms ever nearer.

Benteke was this week set to complete a medical ahead of his proposed £32.5million move to Liverpool.

Boss Tim Sherwood has already invested some of the cash from the sale of the 24-year-old Belgium striker to sign 21-year-old left-back Amavi from Nice for a fee believed to be in the region of £9million.

A France under-21 international, Amavi has set his sights firmly on success in the Premier League.

"I want to play well for this football club," he said. "I am determined to do that. I want to make rapid progress."

"I will be a decisive player."

# Delph U-turn angers Villa fans

VILLA have been left in turmoil with skipper Fabian Delph moving to Manchester City – after another stunning U-turn.

The 25-year-old skipper underwent a medical at City, less than a week after turning down an £8million switch and pledging his future to Villa and agreed a five-year deal in Manchester.

With Christian Benteke also closing in on a move to Liverpool, boss Tim Sherwood is facing up to life without his two most important players just three weeks before the start of the new Premier League season.

Without question, it is Delph's exit which will leave Sherwood and supporters with the bitterest

of tastes in the mouth with many turning to social media to vent their fury at the betrayal. Last Saturday, the England international had silenced mounting speculation over his future by stating he would remain at Villa.

It has been reported Delph would move to City after they met the modest £8million release clause in his contract.

But after an change of heart and amid fury from fans, the club captain issued a statement via Villa's official website which read: "I'm aware there has been intense media speculation surrounding my future in the last 24 hours and I want to set the record straight.

"I'm not leaving. I'm staying at the football club and I can't wait for the start of the season and capturing this great football club."

Yesterday when a photo emerged apparently of Delph on his way to a medical in Manchester, it soon became apparent he had changed his mind once again, leaving fans furious at what they perceive as a double betrayal, after the player had previously stressed his "loyalty".

It was a miserable day all round for Villa, following news Liverpool had finally agreed to meet the £32.5m buyout clause in Benteke's contract. Reds chief executive Ian Ayre will now continue discussions.

# Cutler aims to net stars of the future

**AFTER enjoying spells with the likes of Stoke, Swansea and Rotherham, it's safe to say Neil Cutler knows a thing or two about goalkeeping.**

Now a key member of Walsall's backroom staff, the 38-year-old is widely regarded as one of the best goalkeeping coaches in the game.

But it's not just professional keepers Cutler wants to improve, with his just4keepers goalkeeping academies launched to help all young goalkeepers across the Midlands.

"Working with and improving young goalkeepers is something I really enjoy," said Wolverhampton-born Cutler.

"Ever since we launched just4keepers it's gone from strength to strength and we now have seven academies that meet up across the West Midlands with a new one just starting in Cannock.

"It's my way of passing on my experience and knowledge of the game to young keepers and I try and make each session as fun as possible.

"But it also has that professional element to it. At Walsall I'm charged with making sure we continue to produce good young goalkeepers and having these academies helps.

### Talented

"It's a great chance for me to see all talented, local young goalkeepers.

"I can coach them and I can see the standard. It works for all of us really."

Cutler, who started the coaching sessions in 2009, is always happy to hear from new aspiring keepers who want to join his ranks.

And he is also keen to expand by encouraging girls to attend, with the shot-stopper hoping to run a class at Wolverhampton College where he will be assisted by female coaches from Walsall and Albion.

"We've seen with how well England did at the Women's World Cup that the ladies game is getting bigger and bigger all the time," he said.

"Sadly though, I don't seem to have any girls keen on goalkeeping coaching yet.

"The boys have really bought into the in-depth, technical training sessions and I'd like to do the same for girls.

"It's important we give all young goalkeepers the building blocks that will allow them to be the best they can be, whether they are male or female.

"We've had a number of boys who have come to us and gone on to bigger and better things. If



Walsall's Neil Cutler and his goalkeeping academy, at the Wolverhampton College campus, Wellington Road

I can get some feedback that there's a group of girls out there interested in being coached then I will really push it."

"I'll have the ladies coaches from Walsall and Albion there to make sure we get that female perspective but I think it could be something that is really successful."

Alongside the goalkeeping training, another branch of just4keepers sees Cutler helping aspiring young coaches who are keen to go on and work in the pro-

fessional game. "When just4keepers started it was to develop young keepers but now I have opened that up to help young coaches as well," he said.

"Young coaches can come in, watch how I coach and then every week I email them a list of session topics. They can then help work on the session for the following week.

"It's going really well.

"Ideally it's aimed at youngsters aged 18 or over."

# Mcdonald's future 'needs sorting quickly'

THE future of unsettled Wolves midfielder Kevin McDonald needs sorting soon, boss Kenny Jackett has urged.

McDonald was left out of Saturday's 1-0 win over Burton Albion with the Wolves chief feeling the 26-year-old wasn't in the right frame of mind to play.

Wolves have rejected two bids from Fulham for the Scot, who has a year left on his current contract.

And the saga is in danger of derailing Jackett's plans for the new season, which is now less than three weeks away.

Jackett reiterated his desire to keep McDonald at the club and said: "It's one that we do want resolved and it's one that we do need to come to a conclusion because the most important thing is Wolves starting the season well and Kevin McDonald is a big player for us.

"I want him here and I want him part of it. "They're positive negotiations that are ongoing. And for him it's about him being happy here, settling himself down, seeing where his future is clear and straightforward.

"We both need to get to that point as the start of the season is coming very quickly."

### Football

McDonald rejected Wolves' opening offer of a new contract, feeling it was a 'basic' increase that didn't show the club were fighting to keep him.

However, Wolves believed the contract on the table to be more than reasonable and the two camps have since been at stalemate.

Of leaving him out for the Burton game, Jackett said: "He wasn't selected for the game by myself, he's unsettled with his ongoing contractual situation so I decided not to play him and look at other combinations."

### Unsettled

Did McDonald himself refuse to play? "No, I decided," Jackett said. "He would have played if I'd have told him to but I felt he was unsettled and then took the decision to let him think about the situation."

Fulham, who recently snapped up former Wolves man Jamie O'Hara, had two bids of around £1m for McDonald rejected.

However they are not short of cash and yesterday

sold teenage starlet Patrick Roberts to Manchester City for a £2m fee, rising to £8m with add-ons.

Meanwhile, James Henry could leave Wolves, Jackett has admitted, amid interest from Charlton Athletic.

Reports from London suggested Charlton had bid £500,000 for winger Henry, who didn't feature in Saturday's 1-0 win at Burton Albion.

The Wolves head coach said those reports were incorrect and that Charlton had only inquired about Henry's availability for now.

But Jackett didn't rule out the fact Henry could leave Wolves.

"There isn't a move imminent although Charlton have made an inquiry, although no more than that," he said.

When asked if he was looking to move Henry on, Jackett said: "We'll see. For James he's inside the last year of his contract and we'll see over the coming weeks how he figures for Wolves and exactly where he fits it.

"There was an inquiry but there hasn't been anything more than that. He was fit but wasn't selected."

Henry played 40 times for Wolves.

## Olympic face Rams for first match on home turf

THE line up Rushall Olympic face for the new season sees their first home game against Ramsbottom United on August 15 which is followed three days later by their first venture away to Stamford.

The club's last game of the season will be at home to Darlington 1883 on April 23. The full fixture list is as follows.

August: 15 Ramsbottom Utd H; 18 Stamford A; 22 Grantham Town A; 25 Matlock Town H; 29 Mickleover Sports H; 31 Stourbridge A

September: 5 Workington H; 8 Marine A; 19 Salford City A; 22 Frickley Athletic H; 29 Barwell A

October: 3 Skelmersdale Utd H; 6 Ashton United H; 10 Blyth Spartans A; 13 Buxton A; 17 Whitby Town H; 20 Matlock Town A; 24 Grantham Town H; 27 Stamford H

November: 7 Ramsbottom Utd A; 21 Colwyn Bay A; 28 Halesowen Town H;

December: 5 Darlington 1883 A; 12 Ilkeston FC H; 19 Salford City H; 26 Sutton Coldfield Tn A; 28 Stourbridge H

January: 2 Frickley Athletic A; 9 Nantwich Town H; 16 Hyde United A; 23 Mickleover Sports A; 26 Marine H; 30 Skelmersdale Utd A

February: 6 Barwell H; 13 Ashton United A; 20 Blyth Spartans H; 23 Buxton H; 27 Whitby Town A

March: 5 Hyde United H; 12 Nantwich Town A; 26 Workington A; 28 Sutton Coldfield Tn H

April: 2 Halesowen Town A; 9 Colwyn Bay H; 16 Ilkeston FC A; 23 Darlington 1883 H

## McClean told he must shake off stigma

ALBION boss Tony Pulis has urged summer signing James McClean to shake off the 'stigma' surrounding him after holding talks about the winger's snub of the English flag.

Pulis held a meeting with McClean in the wake of the incident on the club's pre-season tour of America in which he refused to face the cross of St George during the national anthem.

And the Baggies boss has warned McClean, who is from a republican background in Northern Ireland, to protect his reputation after a career that has also seen him refuse to wear a Remembrance Day poppy out of respect for people killed on Bloody Sunday.

"Obviously there has been a stigma around him and he doesn't need to start that up again," said Pulis. "So hopefully we've nipped it in the bud and we can get on with our things and he can get on with his things."

"I didn't see the situation but I had a chat with him and explained what we do as a football club."

## New signing Coady loving life at Wolves

RECENT signing Conor Coady got his first 90 minutes of pre-season under his belt and declared - 'I'm loving life at Wolves'.

The 22-year-old joined the club from Huddersfield earlier this month and has settled straight in at Molineux, featuring in all three of Wolves' friendlies so far.

Coady is likely to be a key player for Wolves this season after starring for Huddersfield in the Championship last year.

And he said he was glad to play his first full game of the pre-season campaign in Wolves' 1-0 win over Burton.

"It's always needed to get that first 90 minutes under your belt and we can move on to next week now," Coady said. "I loved the game, it was great."





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## Club must wait to get Grigg cash

BOSS Dean Smith has warned Walsall fans they will have to wait before seeing the cash received following Will Grigg's move from Brentford to Wigan.

The former Saddlers star made the switch to the League One title favourites last week for a fee in the region of £1 million.

Grigg left the Banks's for a tribunal-set £325,000 in 2013 with the deal including a sell-on clause that would net Walsall 20 per cent of any profit Brentford made if the Northern Ireland international was sold to another club. It means Walsall are now bracing themselves for a six-figure windfall.

But Smith said the club is not in a position to immediately invest that money into the team.

"The money for that transfer won't strengthen our hand straight away," he said. "We get a percentage of the profit but there are a lot of variables in deals like this."

"The agreement between Brentford and Wigan will be over a few years and it means we get our money when Brentford get their money." "There won't be a large sum of money transferred over to us straight away, football just doesn't work like that."

"The good news though is that we now have money coming in that we hadn't budgeted for, that will help us in the future."

Meanwhile, Smith was delighted with his players after he took them on a team bonding trip to North Wales last week.

As well as being put through their paces by fitness coach Jon Whitney, the players also climbed Mount Snowdon and got in some kayaking.

"Wales was really good," Smith said. "We may have been there for only a few days but it felt like a week with everything we got done."

## Jackett will trial new ways to help push for Premier

KENNY JACKETT is to continue trialling Wolves' new formation in pre-season – as he looks to engineer a Plan B for their promotion charge.

Wolves lined up with a 4-3-1-2 system against Paris FC, playing with a mid-fielder behind the front two.

Jackett will be wary of avoiding a slump like the one seen last season when he admitted Wolves had been 'worked out' when they lost five on the spin.

That run arguably cost them a shot at automatic promotion, let alone the play-offs.

And Jackett said Wolves should take the example of champions Watford who regularly used two systems.

Of the new system, he said: "I won't be frightened to use it."

"I've used that diamond formation and I think it can give you some control through midfield."

"You have to have the right balance. We'll see if that works for us going forward. I wasn't disappointed in that particular game what it brought and I could see some possibilities."

"You do need two systems."

## Pics stamp their mark against Wood

Walsall Wood 1 Rushall Olympic 4

AFTER a lively opening 15 minutes it was Rushall who went ahead.

Jordan Fitzpatrick winning the ball left of centre before hitting a superb 50 yard cross field ball into the right of the box to pick out trialist Derek Agbo who left his marker in his wake as he calmly slotted the ball past advancing keeper Mario Kisiel.

Wood almost equalised within three minutes, Drew Aiton playing a short right wing corner to Lewis Taylor Boyce, taking the return, fading inside before crashing a 30-yard drive off the cross-bar with keeper Dan Coleman soundly beaten.

Football

On 31 minutes Corey Currithers came inside from wide left, played a neat 1-2 with Aiton and hit a 30-yard screamer into the top right hand corner, Coleman flying across his goal to make a stunning one-handed save.

The visitors went close to extending their lead on 51 minutes, Kris Taylor collecting a ball through the middle and his fierce low drive from 30 yards brought a superb full length save from Kisiel.

Wood equalised on 60 minutes, Craig Deakin

making a 60 yard left wing run and finding Currithers on the left of the box, he cut inside through 2 tackles, his vicious near post low drive was only parried by the keeper, Butlin pouncing to fire home the loose ball.

On 71 minutes Carl Palmer powered through the centre of the Wood defence, his 25-yard drive bringing a full length save from the keeper.

Seven minutes later a penalty gave Gavin Caines the chance to put the visitors ahead and he duly obliged.

Three minutes later Jack Duggan powered home a far post header from a right wing corner. A minute later it was 4-1, Caines at the near post.

# WOLVES EDGE CLOSED MATCH

Walsall 2 Wolves 3

WOLVES and Walsall sharpened their skills against each other in a behind-closed-doors friendly.

The fixture, at the Saddlers' training ground in Essington, saw Wolves run out narrow 3-2 winners in a match split into three 30-minute spells.

Kenny Jackett's side took a 2-0 lead thanks to two strikes from Dutchman Rajiv van La Parra.

But Walsall hit back with Jordan Cook scoring a spectacular strike from the halfway line immediately after the second 30-minute period got under way.

The Saddlers then got back on level terms when midfielder Reece Flanagan won the ball in midfield before cutting inside and firing into the net.

The visitors line-up featured first-team stars alongside van La Parra with Matt Doherty, James Henry, Ethan Ebanks-Landell and Jack Price all involved.

Bolster

The Saddlers, who played Nike Academy in a similar friendly last week, included a number of trialists in their squad, as they look to bolster their ranks in time for the season kick-off on August 8.

Walsall manager Dean Smith said: "We were able to try out three different formations, have a look at a few trialists and also try out players in various positions."

"It was a terrific work-out for us and I am thankful to Wolves for providing the opposition. It was a competitive game with some good football from both teams."

"Jordan Cook scored a wonder goal right from kick-off. He spotted the keeper was off his line and the ball just sailed in – you don't see one of those very often."

"Reece Flanagan also scored a really good goal. It was a really good work-out for both teams and I know Kenny Jackett appreciated it."

"I'm pleased with where we're at fitness-wise and the two training games we've had over the past couple of weeks have certainly benefited us."

"We're not far off where I want us to be. The Wolves game gave us plenty of positives."

## Walsall move into top spot



Wellington's Sam Lloyd is bowled by Walsall's Paul Byrne, with keeper James Middleton making sure.

WALSALL took advantage of Moseley's defeat to Old Hill to move to the top of Birmingham League Division One.

The Gorway outfit are 11 points clear at the summit after a seven-wicket win over Wellington.

Chasing 154-9, Tim Maxfield (41) and Alex McChristie (42no) guided Walsall home with more than 14 overs in hand.

Moseley – who dropped to fourth, 15 points behind Walsall – were skittled for 138 by Old Hill, thanks in part to Nigel Davenport (5-25). Monil Patel crashed six fours and six sixes in a 67-ball innings of 66, while skipper Danny Cox hit 34 as Old Hill remained 10 points behind

Walsall. Fifth-placed Smethwick were involved in a high-scoring affair at near-neighbours Harborne, who just hung on for a winning draw as Smethwick finished on 318-9 in reply to the home side's total of 322-6 – Amitoze Singh hit 81, Vikram Sodhi 43 and Yasir Shah 42.

Himley continue to move in the right direction even though they were unable to clinch a victory over Bromsgrove.

Pelsall (73) were brushed aside by Stratford-upon-Avon (201) despite the best efforts of Tom Boyd (3-37), while Worfield lost by 49 runs against Worcester.

Will Cook took 4-42 for Worfield before hitting 98.

## McCarey is given ban but can play

WOLVES goalkeeper Aaron McCarey has vowed to make the most of his "second chance" now he is once again free to play.

The 23-year-old has been suspended for four months by the FA, after testing positive for a non-performance enhancing substance.

But with the ban backdated to April 21 – the date of the original suspension – and the rest suspended for two years, the shotstopper is once again available for selection and was due to make his return for the under-21s at Corby Town.

McCarey, who stated throughout he had not knowingly taken the substance, admits he feared at one stage his career might be over.

He said: "It is a second chance, if you like and I am really grateful to have it."

"At one point I thought my career was finished. It has been a long three months."

McCarey added: "I understand some fans will always have a question and maybe not believe I am saying."

And he said: "I'm sorry the good name of the club has been dragged into this situation but hopefully this will draw a line under it and we can move on."

The ruling followed an FA investigation following the failed test.

Wolves head coach Kenny Jackett said: "Aaron has maintained all along that he has no idea how the drug entered his system."

"Medical and scientific analysis, commissioned by the Professional Footballers' Association on behalf of Aaron, and including a hair follicle test requested by the player himself, also showed that the trace amount was very small and backed up Aaron's statement."

## Magazine names Kenny as top dog

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett has been named the best manager in the Football League by Four Four Two magazine.

The publication looked into the achievements of all managers plying their trade across the Championship, League One and League Two with Jackett coming out on top.

The 53-year-old was declared the winner thanks to his promotion achievements with former clubs Swansea and Millwall.

The magazine voted Birmingham's Gary Rowett as the second best boss outside the Premier League following his success with the Blues.

★★★

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